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THE TIMES

Europa takes a look at job satisfaction

Government to retain blacklists despite Silkin court apology

overnment will continue to st companies that break the s guidelines despite a quali- apology by the Attorney al in the Court of Appeal lay, and despite the possi- f defeat in the Commons on the issue tonight. Mr Sam Silkin, QC, said in court that the Government would continue to place its contracts "in the public interest", but its warnings about sanctions in the electrical contracting industry had been unfortunately worded.

egally binding deals will stand

e Clark
Correspondent
f it is defeated by a ion of Conservative our votes in the Com- ight on the issue of ng companies that e guideline limit of a earnings increases, the ent will not change its

was made clear in al quarters last night mmistakable signs that bour backbenchers are out the Government's to upset, by the use nctions, agreements by free collective bar-

ecame clear earlier in was that the Govern- l not try to force com- break legally binding lements made outside ings guidelines. Mr cin, QC, the Attorney gave that pledge in t of Appeal when he ted the Department of ent in an appeal by Hall, an electrical ng company.
MPs are still objecting Government's use of that can have the changing a pay agree- he detriment of a com- orkers and sales pros-

vative and Labour MPs and in the Commons Government should blacklists public and the sanctions being The sanctions can in- e withdrawal of finan- istance, export credit es and contracts.
ential lists have been d to National Health uthorities, the national- ustries and the univer- th instructions that no contracts are to be to the companies con-

he ruling on Friday by nas, the Speaker, that questions about com- n the blacklist would be out of order MPs cted greater frankness nisters. But the word Government yesterday the Treasury will be happy to confirm the names of companies which issue statements saying they have been blacklisted, but it will not volunteer lists of names.

The process of asking detailed questions was put into action yesterday when Mr Michael Latham, Conservative MP for Melton, put to the Chancellor of the Exchequer requests for confirmation that seven named companies were on the blacklist under phase three (the present phase) of the incomes policy.

He asked about Delapre Precision Engineering, Northamptonshire; T. Baker and Sons, Tipton, Staffordshire; W. Allport and Sons, Sutton Coldfield; *P. Shirley Smith, Knowle*, Solihull; Hall Foundries, Warley, West Midlands; the South Crofty Tin Mine, Cornwall; and High Speed Turnings, Kirkby, Liverpool.

Mr Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, replied:
To preserve confidentiality of discussions between the Government and individual firms I think it is appropriate only to confirm or deny that discretionary action is being taken against a firm in cases where the firm concerned has already made a public announcement on the subject.
As far as I know, only four of the firms mentioned have made such an announcement. These are P. Shirley Smith, Hall Foundries, High Speed Turnings and Delapre Precision Engineering, and I confirm that they are subject to discretionary action because of pay settlements in breach of the guidelines.

There are about twenty names on the phase three blacklist, according to the Treasury, but MPs are equally worried about companies that have been the subject of sanctions for many months for breaches of earlier phases of the pay policy. The question they are asking is: "*Does the blacklist last for ever?*"

Clarification was given by Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, over the reported intention of his department to restrict the premiums of Sun Alliance and London Insurance, one of the biggest insurance companies in the City, under section 9 of the Counter-Inflation Act, 1973. Mr Dell said: "I have not yet given any insurance company a statutory direction to adjust the level of *their premiums*".

It was pointed out later that Sun Alliance had in fact been told that the action would be *taken if it did not renegotiate* its recent pay settlement.

On the other instances of sanctions, the Treasury said last night that confidentiality was preserved because the Government did not want to advertise the difficulties of the companies concerned, and that, apart from one unfortunate slip, all companies involved knew that sanctions were being taken against them.

There was full consultation with the companies.

Officials admit that in the discussions with the John Lewis Partnership there could have been a misunderstanding about the introduction of sanctions, and the Treasury has apologized. That blunder having occurred, the Treasury reviewed the *procedure followed* and steps were taken to ensure that every company subject to sanctions had been told clearly what would happen.

After the Treasury has identified and explained the breach of pay policy, there is, according to officials, a continuing discussion with the company about the application of discretionary sanctions: action is not seen as a once-for-all punishment.

Sanctions are continued so long as the companies continue to pay wages above the level thought right within the present pay policy.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, the Shadow Chancellor, said on ITN's *News at One* yesterday that the court statement of the Attorney General had been an admission that the Government had been "taking unconstitutional action and applying unlawful pressure".

Haulage company penalized, page 2
Parliamentary report, page 10
Law Report, page 11



Soviet troops scramble into tanks in Byelorussia in manoeuvres seen by western observers. P 6

Outer space could pick up Earth's TV waves

From Clive Cookson
Washington, Feb 6

The 300 star systems nearest the Earth could detect the presence of intelligent life here from our television signals, if their inhabitants have at least the technology and curiosity of late twentieth-century man.

That is the conclusion drawn by three American astronomers from what they say is the first systematic study of the "radiation signature of the Earth", published in the journal *Science*. Their work confirms previous suggestions that those searching for extra-terrestrial life should consider eavesdropping on radio waves inadvertently leaking from other worlds, as well as looking for deliberate signals of their existence.

The authors — Dr Woodruff Sullivan of the University of Washington, Seattle, and two graduate students, Stuart Brown and Chris Wetherill — found that the most intense radio emissions from Earth come from the United States ballistic missile early warning system and its Soviet counterpart. They could be detected 250 light-years away by an observer with our present technology who built an antenna system like the array of a thousand 100-metre dishes proposed for the American Project Cyclops.

However these extremely powerful early warning radars are very few in number and their frequencies are constantly changing for security reasons, so they would be unsuitable for long-term monitoring.

No long or medium wave and little short-wave radio broadcasting escapes the Earth's atmosphere. But the higher frequency television signals are absorbed and bent by the atmosphere only to a slight extent. They are transmitted horizontally and travel past the horizon into space.

Therefore a receiver on a distant planet would detect the signals twice every Earth-day, when it rose above the transmitter's horizon and again when it set.

The University of Washington scientists calculate that a strong (five megawatt) UHF television station could be detected (by a receiver of the Cyclops type) up to 25 light-years away. About 300 stars and their orbiting planets lie within that range.

Although there are 15,000 television stations in the world, the authors say that the problem of detecting radio leakage from the Earth "is equivalent to detecting the strongest single station alone". They show that it would pay an investigator to sweep the radio spectrum with an extremely narrow bandwidth (0.1 hertz) looking for individual stations, rather than attempt to catch several transmitters at once with a much broader bandwith, as all Earth-based searches to date have done.

If alien beings do manage to tune into the world's television stations, they are unlikely to be able to extract any programme content — that would require a receiver 20,000 times more sensitive than one necessary to detect the bare signal. "Depending on one's opinion of the information content of television broadcasting, this calculation can be taken either as discouraging or reassuring", the researchers comment.

Yuri Orlov to face more serious charges

Moscow, Feb 6.—The Soviet authorities, apparently unmoved by Western appeals, today disclosed that they were pressing more serious criminal charges against Dr Yuri Orlov, the detained human rights campaigner.

Friends said his wife, Irina, was summoned to the Lubyanka headquarters of the KGB and told that Dr Orlov, aged 52, now faced a charge of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda, which carries a maximum penalty of seven years in a labour camp.

Mrs Orlov said last June that the KGB told her her physicist husband, held incommunicado since his arrest a year ago this week, was accused of *spreading* anti-Soviet fabrications, an offence punishable by up to three years' imprisonment.

She was summoned by the KGB today to be informed of the new charge and was asked to find her husband a Soviet lawyer within five days, the friends said.

Support for Dr Orlov, founder of a Soviet Group monitoring Soviet observance of the human rights provisions of the Helsinki accords, has come from many western colleagues, including the United States National Academy of Sciences.

Washington suggested last February that the United Nations commission on human rights should investigate his arrest.

Amid western concern over the case, Mr John Macdonald QC, agreed to defend Dr Orlov after a telephone call from the physicist's wife.

But the Soviet authorities have already refused to accept a foreign lawyer in the case of Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, another Helsinki group member, apparently because this would *amount to recognizing Western* claims to a say on such issues.

The Soviet Union has always insisted that its handling of political dissidents is purely its own affair, and the insistence on a Soviet lawyer today suggested the same attitude applied to the Orlov case.

Meanwhile, the family of Alexander Ginzburg, another imprisoned dissident leader, said the authorities had informed them that Mr Ginzburg's period of detention for investigation had been formally extended until May 3. Mr Ginzburg also faces charges of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.—Reuter.

Dr Owen reminds EEC partners that Britain is an island

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 6

Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said in Brussels tonight that Britain should not be deterred from defending its own view of the EEC by the criticism of "purists who wish to preserve unchanged the attitudes and practices of the Community of Six and see the Nine as no different from the original Six".

In a speech at a dinner given in his honour by the British *Labour group in Brussels*, Dr Owen said it was possible to be "frank and forthright and yet enrich the Community". The Community could be "suffocated by cant", and "the mere mouthing of *communautaire* language could stifle healthy questioning and debate.

The remarks will be seen as a response to the accusations of selfishness and lack of Community spirit levelled at Britain with renewed vigour by its EEC partners in the wake of the furoreover the devaluation of the "green pound" and the breakdown of negotiations on a Community fisheries policy.

"They [the other eight EEC members] feel that Britain is trying to alter the rules of the club which we joined voluntarily", Dr Owen went on. "Of course, we accept the rules. The rules of a club can remain, while the club changes its character, and this is what has happened in the Community."

In Britain it was felt with some justice that it had taken longer than it ought to have done for the Community, including some departments of the European Commission, "to realize that Britain's being an island is a fact of geology and geography and not a reprehensible act of anti-Europeanism".

It was perfectly justifiable, for example, for an island nation to "have an outlook of its own on fishing". Just as "a country rich in agricultural land, like France, has its own well safeguarded outlook on agriculture".

Equally for Britain, with much shorter and faster flowing rivers than elsewhere in Europe, it was simple common sense to resist the imposition of harmonized controls based on the pollution problems of the great continental rivers.

On the future development of the EEC, Dr Owen said that the objective of "fully fledged federalism", to which some Europeans remained committed, was "a noble goal but one which for most of us in Britain is unrealistic, and to some mythical.

"We cannot see in concrete terms how nine nations with very different political, social and cultural traditions, some of them still very young nations in European terms—can possibly become federated over any timescale of political activity on which it is realistic to focus."

The Rome treaty spoke only of an "ever closer union among the peoples of Europe". The Anglo-Saxon tradition of "*empiricism, of building slowly, step by step,*" was more sensible in British eyes than "attempts to force the Community into a rigid, predetermined view of what the future of Europe should be."

The EEC today could be called a "confederal" system in which "sovereign states cede to a central authority the *responsibility for handling certain* common matters, while retaining a measure of control over common business, and undisputed authority over everything for which responsibility has not been transferred to the centre."

It was impossible to say precisely to what goal the Community was moving. No existing confederations provided an obvious clue. The EEC's strength was that it was a completely new phenomenon, following no existing doctrinal blueprint.

Dr Owen saw the independent role of the European Commission as the key factor setting the EEC apart from other inter-governmental organizations. There would always be such a role for the Commission, but it needed to "change some of its previous practices and attitudes instead of appearing at times to be frozen in the posture of the Commission of the six".

Company to pay increase and union calls off strike

j Nicholson-Lord
am Silkin, QC, the General, made a apology in the Court I yesterday to a com- ected by an official its 2,000 electricians. ompany, Holliday Hall Ltd, electrical contrac- ended implementation reed pay award after rtment of Employment ed the industry about ble use of sanctions if lines limiting increases gs to a tenth were

y Hall sought a tem- njunction against the ns' union to prevent tive strike from going

kin's intervention yes- me after the case had been adjourned from Friday for representatives of the Government and the union to attend.

Yet while denying that the hearing was a *trial of the* Government's pay policy, the Attorney General told the court that he had consulted other ministerial colleagues before appearing.

In what amounted to a defence of the sanctions policy, Mr Silkin emphasized the Government's right to place contracts in a way that would best serve the public interest, taking into account the *guidelines* for the control of inflation.

But he agreed that Department of Employment's warnings about sanctions to the electrical contracting industry had been "unfortunately worded" and added: "It is not now, and never has been, the policy of the Government that it should take any action with the intention or consequence of causing a breach of contractual or other legal obligations."

After Mr Silkin's prepared statement to the court the company withdrew its application. It said last night that it would be paying the disputed increase, backdated to January 1, immediately. The union, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, announced that it is to call off the strike.

However, the employers' body, the Electrical Contractors' Association, criticized the Department of Employment for delays in processing the

Continued on page 2, col 1

Bank calls for EEC trade boost

By Our Business News Staff

A call for joint European action to bring about non-inflationary expansion was made by Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, last night.

At the annual dinner of the Overseas Bankers Club, Mr Richardson said that by acting together the countries of the European Community hoped to achieve an improvement in their overall economic health which they could not achieve by divided action.

In doing so, he subtly shifted the British position away from focusing demands for world stimulus on the three "locomotive countries"—Japan, Germany and the United States—towards a broader-based expansionary strategy.

At the same time, he tried to shift debate to action which could be worked out within the European framework, rather than relying on action at world level.

The Governor stressed that the world should welcome the continuing high growth rate in the United States and accept the need for a deficit on the American balance of payments as a result. To achieve dollar stability, other countries would have to help, however.

He also said that it was important for Japan to act to reduce its surplus and to step

Continued on page 17, col 4

Overseas students may be charged up to £5,000

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Overseas students may be required to pay tuition fees of up to £5,000 a year to study in Britain. A self-financing multi-million pound scheme for fees will be proposed in a government consultative document or Green Paper in the spring.

At present they pay up to £850, which is only about a quarter of what their courses cost. The hidden subsidy for 80,000 overseas students in British colleges and universities is about £125m a year.

Ministers consider that the money could be better employed if redistributed so that relatively wealthy students, mainly from the Middle East and the United States, *paid*, the full cost, which might be up to £5,000 a year for some veterinary and medical studies, in order to subsidize all or part of the fees of poorer students.

Some rich students from countries with their own well developed university systems will clearly prefer to stay in their own countries rather than face a four-fold increase or more, even though they could afford the higher fees.

The new scheme is likely to include a scholarship fund for overseas students of exceptional academic ability, so that British universities and colleges may continue to benefit from their valuable contribution. It will probably provide many more scholarships for refugee students, including students who are prevented from getting into colleges in their own countries.

The Ministry of Overseas Development, is supporting about 600 refugee students in Britain, mainly from Chile, Uganda, and Ethiopia, and about a hundred black students from Rhodesia. It is also giving grants, administered by the British Council, to 10,000 students from poor developing countries.

Ministers' proposals are based on the student's ability to pay, not on the wealth or poverty of his country.

The recommended fee for a full-time overseas undergraduate or student on an advanced course in a polytechnic or college is £650 a year (£850 for a postgraduate). An undergraduate course costs about £2,500.

The Department of Education and Science last night denied that it had adopted a new policy on overseas student numbers. The aim to reduce the total by September, 1978, to the level in 1975-76 was announced in November, 1976.

The department acknowledged that the Government is considering a longer-term policy toward overseas students, since it attaches great importance to their presence here and recognizes their value as welcome guests.

Mercury in London orange

A Jaffa orange poisoned with mercury has been discovered in London.

It was bought last week by Mrs Christine Chapman, of Durham Terrace, Paddington, at Marks and Spencer, which is *now using metal detectors to* screen all Jaffa citrus fruit.

It was pointed out that the screening was no protection if someone with a hypodermic syringe struck once the orange was on the counter.

The police and the anti-terrorist branch at Scotland Yard are investigating the incident.

Westminster City Council, which analysed the orange, advised people to peel oranges, cut the segments into halves, and look for silver-grey droplets.

Contaminated oranges were found in Germani, Holland and Sweden last week. Then an Arab terrorist group claimed responsibility.

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elis admit s sales Ethiopians

n, the Israeli Foreign Minister, ast night that Israel had sold Ethiopia. *He told the Israel Radio* ident in Zurich that Israel had it in maintaining friendly relations iopia. President Sadat of Egypt Washington that the occupied itory that Israel must return was concede. Earlier, he had been d by President Carter to show in the peace talks Page 5

no concessions

ua Nkomo, *joint leader of the* Front Rhodesia nationalists, said n, on his return from Malta, that was now willing to accept outside on of pre-independence elections involvement of a United Nations ping force. In return the Front "supervisory role" in the period Page 5

hrow gold theft

nment of gold dust insured for has disappeared from Heathrow London, after being stored in a cargo area instead of a strong rrived at the airport from South January 27 and was bound for a on company Page 2

lesale prices up

dustry raised wholesale prices by ot in January, but the cost of its rials fell for the ninth successive e "input" index in January fell nt and now stands 3½ per cent level 12 months ago Page 17

Tories' four choices for Scotland

Four basic choices for the future government of Scotland have been described by Mr Francis Pym, opposition spokesman on devolution: the present system with a new select committee and stronger Scottish Grand Committee, an inquisitorial assembly, a quasi-federal system, or a separate legislative assembly Page 3

Cuts by Swan Hunter

After the loss of its share of the £115m Polish shipbuilding order, Swan Hunter is to make more than 1,100 boilermakers redundant at its Tyneside yards. A political row is expected today over severance payments under the redundancy scheme being framed for the shipbuilding industry Page 17

Fortnightly benefit

Fortnightly, instead of weekly, payment of unemployment benefit is likely to be recommended to the Secretary of State for Employment. A pilot scheme at selected unemployment benefit offices has shown preferences for such payment by claimants and staff *alike* Page 4

Non-League side win

Blyth Spartans, a non-League side, beat Stoke City, of the second division, 3-2, to reach the fifth round of the FA Cup for the first time. In the next round Blyth meet Wrexham, who beat Newcastle, 4-1 Page 8

Wanted man: Sidney Noble, aged 49, who is wanted for interview in connexion with robberies from at least 50 elderly women, was in police custody at Derby last September, it was disclosed 4

Letters: On Cristian unity, from the Bishop of Tonbridge, and others; on immigrants, from Mr Guy Mayers, and others; on fighting in the Ogaden, from Dr David Hamilton
Leading articles: Foreign troops in Africa; Mr Pym's cautious approach; Sir Thomas More
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The saindliness of Sir Thomas More; a special correspondent asks if the end is in sight for the political refugee; David Watts on the latest clash between Egypt and Israel
Arts, page 7
Peter Nichols on the background to *Privates on Parade*; Stanley Reynolds on *The Seagull* (BBC 1); John Percival on the Covent Garden Royal Ballet; Paul Overy on art examinations
Obituary, page 16
Mr John Watson; Mr L. M. Pugh
Sport, pages 8 and 9
Cricket: John Woodcock suggests compromise on Packer issue; England poised for much-needed victory; Football: Norman Fox previews League Cup semi-finals; Leeds accept Tottenham's offer for McQueen; Boxing: Conteh winds up preparation
Business News, pages 17-22
Stock markets: Gilts hit by Continental selling while equities drift quietly down leaving the *FT* Ordinary share index 0.6 off at 458.1
Financial Editor: The right course for Leyland's minority shareholders; distortions in the pattern of bank lending; British Singer continues to spend
Business features: Eric Wigham on attempts to improve the effectiveness of the International Labour Organization; Frank Vogl on President Carter's better relations with United States business
Business Diary: An earlier instance of the Spencer Churchill school of art criticism recalled

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HOME NEWS

Blacklisted haulage company to lose £10,000 Ministry of Defence contract after 30 years

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

A West Midlands road haulier on the Government's pay blacklist has been warned that his company will lose a Ministry of Defence contract worth between £10,000 and £12,000 a year. A request has been made to all ministries not to place new haulage business in areas where the pay guidelines have been broken by transport companies.

The Department of Transport has decreed that "until the commercial hauliers in breach of pay policy can be identified new government business should not be placed in any areas where excessive settlements have been made".

The company that stands to lose the Defence contract, T. Baker and Sons, of Tipton, West Midlands, is a signatory to the 15 per cent settlement reached between the region's Road Haulage Association and the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Mr Frederick Baker, its managing director, said last night that he had been told after making telephone inquiries that the contract, which the company has held for 30 years, would not be renewed and had already been allocated to another business.

Mr Baker said that he had been warned by the Treasury about three weeks ago that he could face sanctions. He then heard "in a roundabout way" that he might lose a contract for taking Army motor transport spares from Brierley Hill to Chilwell, in Nottinghamshire.

He said that had been confirmed when he telephoned officials in Shrewsbury.

Mr Baker added: "It is only a minor part of our business, but it is surely unfair that we should be singled out for treatment when 800 other firms have made the same deal."

The Ministry of Defence did not comment last night on the case but referred to the general instruction from the Department of Transport.

Test case difficulties: An attempt by the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs to test the legitimacy of government sanctions against companies breaching the pay guidelines has run into difficulties (our Business News Staff writes).

The union said in December that it was examining the withdrawal of certain export guarantees from James Mackie and Son, of Belfast, which had refused to renegotiate a 22 per cent pay rise.

But the ASTMS inquiries have been impeded by an almost total lack of information. Union organizers complain that even their own members in the company are displaying a marked reluctance to give information on the matter.

In London meanwhile, the John Lewis Partnership is expected to approach counsel towards the end of this week to seek an opinion on the legality of its being placed on the government blacklist. The partnership says that it was placed on the list for paying £1 a week above the voluntary limits last March to 500 of its 24,000 staff.

Sun Alliance and London Insurance is also likely to take further legal advice this week. The company has threatened to take court action if the Government proceeds with plans to force a reduction of its premiums.

The Confederation of British Industry, while reiterating that it is prepared to go to the Government in defence of any member company that asks it to do so over sanctions, is clearly embarrassed by developments.

On one hand, the CBI is disturbed by the fact that the sanctions appear to have no basis in law. On the other, it wants to see phase three of the pay policy succeed and would be reluctant to become associated with any move that could be a threat to restraint.

Film Transport Services, a north London company, denied last night that it was on a government blacklist. A representative said that it had been listed for a very short period last year during a hearing before the Central Arbitration Committee; but as soon as the committee gave its judgment the company was removed from the list.

Miners call for pay guideline to be easier

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Miners' leaders will meet the Chancellor and senior Cabinet colleagues today to seek relaxation of the pay restraint guidelines for 250,000 pitmen. Their insistence on a more flexible approach coincides with increasing pressure from employers to end ministerial "blacklisting" of firms deemed to be in breach of the pay code.

Top officials of the National Union of Mineworkers are to have talks with Mr Healey, Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy. They will then seek to enlist the aid of the TUC in efforts to gain more than the 10 per cent limit on wage rises allowed in the public sector.

Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the NUM, said last night that the miners would "seek some relief from the straitjacket of 10 per cent" and he criticized the Government for imposing tight restraints without the authority of law. A statutory policy would have been more honest.

That argument will be taken on to the TUC, and national officials of the miners' union will insist that they should be allowed to negotiate rises in excess of the Cabinet norm because the Government wants their industry to grow.

While the miners are arguing that they need more because they are worth more, the influential Engineering Employers' Federation yesterday said that secret ministerial blacklisting of companies judged to be in breach of the pay guidelines might scupper hopes of a fourth year of incomes policy.

Mr John Porter, the employers' director of industrial relations, said the Government's "very secretive, inept and underhand" system of sanctions against companies under pressure from unions to concede more than the 10 per cent limit might have far-reaching political implications.

"It is almost certain to make it impossible to secure the sort of support from employers like ourselves in any further round of pay policy that depends on the co-operation of employers rather than the unions", he said.

As political pressure built up in the Commons, the traditionally moderate electricians' union added to it with letters to MPs last night protesting at the Department of Employment's intervention in an agreement for 35,000 white-collar staff in the electrical contracting, heating and plumbing industries.



Miss Penelope Keith, aged 32, the actress, who married Mr Rodney Timson, aged 33, a detective in Sussex, at Wandsworth, London, yesterday. They intend to fly to New York today.

£180,000 o gold dust vanishes at airport

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

A consignment of gold insured for £180,000 ha appeared from Heathrow port, London, after bein loaded and stored in a g cargo warehouse instead strong room.

The gold, destined for known company of b brokers in London, was s Britain by Rustenburg Pla Mines in South Africa month. The two boxes, ing 59 kilograms tog arrived on a South A Airways flight on Janua and were transferred to B Airways' cargo centre.

Until last Friday it thought that the dust, wh 98 per cent pure gold, awaiting customs clearanc when it was missed the area was searched. The bla brown dust was packed in these containers inside board boxes.

Valuable cargoes, such dust, are sometimes escort flights and then placed strong room until collected gold dust was not escorte the flight. It was unloade hand and booked into the warehouse, but there was dispute last night why i not kept in a secure pla

British Airways said: "I placed in a general cargo It was not labelled as a able cargo, but if we had k it was then it would have placed in a secure area."

Tyler and Co, the City adjusters, who are offeri reward of a tenth of the value, said they understood the airways' bill for the had asked for strong security, and the sides o boxes should have carri label identifying the con The description issued b police for the two boxes mention an airways label.

Pay award delays criticized

Continued from page 1

pay agreement as well as mistaken arithmetic, and said the dispute had led to the first official strike in the industry for 16 years.

The award provides for a basic-rate increase of about 5 per cent together with provision for a self-financing productivity scheme or a "fall-back" increase in hourly rates where no productivity scheme is introduced.

The association said last night that the award had been agreed by the joint board representing both sides of the industry on November 15 and forwarded to the Department of Employment for monitoring.

It was provisionally approved, subject to assurances about the fall-back scheme, and on December 16 was published, automatically becoming part of workers' contracts of employment.

However, on December 22 the department reversed its approval and wrote to the joint board stating that companies paying the fall-back bonuses would be in jeopardy of government "discretionary measures".

The letter was received on the eve of the industry's winter week holiday, an association representative said. The men returned to work after Christmas to find that the increase had been suspended.

Mr Silkin said yesterday that the costings of the fall-back bonus scheme were made available to the department on December 21. Officials immediately had doubts whether the board's assurances could be fulfilled.

By last Friday unofficial action against the suspension of the full increase had led to about 10,000 men in the industry refusing to work. The union then called for a selective strike against three companies, Holliday Hall, Hayden Youngs and Lilleker's, to start from Friday.

The association added that the agreement would fall within government guidelines if taken over a full year. The department, it said, had insisted on regarding the first day of its operation as the test of its permissibility.

The union has taken the view that the joint board agreement was binding.

Yesterday both Holliday Hall and the association were refused meetings with the Department of Employment to clarify the position. The association is sending a circular to its 2,300 member companies citing Mr Silkin's statement and advising them to pay the award immediately.

About three quarters of Holliday Hall's £30m business is in contracts for central and local government and public bodies.

The Department of Employment said last night that it could not have monitored the agreement more quickly because of the complicated issues involved.

Parliamentary report, page 10
Law Report, page 11

Alternative left-wing Labour Budget proposes £4,000m a year reflation

By Our Political Editor

A draft left-wing Labour Party Budget advising the Chancellor to reflate by £4,000m in a full year, which is much more than is under considered for publication later this month against the Government's wishes.

The document proposes large increases in public expenditure to meet an annual growth rate of 4½ per cent for the next three years, which again is far above what the Treasury believes possible. The "alternative Budget" aims to halve unemployment by 1981.

The confidential first draft of the 42-page research document was being circulated among MPs last night for amendments after a defeat for ministers and party moderates at a meeting of the party's home policy committee... The proposed publication ahead of the official Budget would be unwelcome irritation to Mr Healey; and disclosure of the document is possibly an attempt to show up the wildness of the left wing. The home policy committee is meeting next Monday to consider asking the party's national executive committeeto publish it.

Among the document's indiscretions is a brazen reference to the Government's use of the "blacklist" against companies not adhering to present pay guidelines. The party's research department authors would propose using similar sticks (and carrots) to enforce "planning agreements" on Britain's top 100 enterprises.

The document recognizes that, given the Government's minority situation, that cannot be done in Parliament, so for public purchasing, it continues: "A blacklist of large firms unwilling to cooperate in planning could be drawn up, as is already done without the force of law to back the pay code". So much for the stick. The carrott would be: "Conversely a preference list of companies who had negotiated agreements could be operated."

The document's recommendations include raising the National Enterprise Board's borrowing limit to £1,000m by next year; extension of the temporary employment subsidy for a further year; import controls if necessary, and singling out Japan with a diplomatic ultimatum to open its home markets or face restrictions on exports.

Also suggested are increases in child benefits and pensions beyond those proposed by the Government; increases in spending on housing, education and the health service, such as reintroducing free milk for those aged 7 to 11: income tax concessions by means of increased personal allowances, raising minimum thresholds, and lowering maxima. The document opposes lowering the basic rate of income tax which is believed to be what Mr Healey is considering.

"No vote winner": Mr Healey's "forthcoming give-away Budget" cannot possibly be a vote winner, according to Mr Norman Atkinson the Tribunite treasurer of the Labour Party.

Using arguments normally in the Tory preserve, he states that the proposed tax changes "are more likely to underline the shortfall in living standards in recent times . . . The give-away aspects of Healey's spring Budget are bound to be far less than the £3,000m necessary if the phase three 10 per cent wage ceiling is to be made up to offset price increases during the same period".

Mr Atkinson, MP for Haringey, Tottenham, points out in the February issue of the *Journal* of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (engineering section) that a "second irritation" will be the replacement of child allowances by child benefit payments. Mothers will be pleased "but Britain's male chauvinists may not share her enthusiasm". The take-home pay of the average family man will be reduced, Mr Atkinson writes.

Shop steward wins against union executiv

A left-wing shop ste won in the High Court yesterday the right to seek a £ a-year job as a full-time t official.

The executive of the Amalgamated Union of Engine Workers had disqualified Michael Rice, aged 28, a l steward, from contesting election for the new po Birmingham South di secretary.

Mr Justice Chapman Birmingham, revoked the after a two-hour legal ment over the meaning union rule.

Mr Rice, a steward at Lucas factory at Acocks G Birmingham, was barred cause he had not been a br member in the new district a year before the election, he successfully contended the union rules stated th candidate need only worked in the area for time.

Tanker drivers' ban shuts 70 Scottish schools

Seventy schools in Strathclyde were closed yesterday because of a shortage of heating fuel as a result of the tanker drivers' overtime ban. A regional council official said 96 would be closed today.

Most of the schools are in Glasgow.

The Motor Agents' Association gave a warning yesterday that many garages would go out of business because of a new maximum petrol price limit imposed by tanker drivers in the Midlands.

The 1,300 drivers imposed a limit of 82p a gallon for four-star petrol last week to stop profiteering. But from yesterday they set the limit at 78p and threatened to black any garages that charge more.

Mr Robert Pearson, manager of the association's petrol retailing department, said: "There is a 30 to 40 per cent shortfall in deliveries, so garages are going to have that much less to sell."

The Automobile Association said that while there was no general shortage of petrol garages were running out of particular grades, mainly four star, for short periods.

Firemen call for emergency meeting after court ruling

By Robert Parker

London firemen have called for an emergency meeting of the full council of the Fire Brigades Union to discuss a decision by the Court of Appeal yesterday that Mr Peter Darby, chief fire officer of London, was justified in suspending without pay six firemen convicted of theft.

Many London firemen have demanded industrial action in connexion with the case.

They feel the suspension took no regard of dismissal procedures laid down in a national agreement which has been operating for 30 years. Under that agreement, they argue, men should be suspended on full pay while their cases are heard.

Mr John Lewis, senior London executive member of the union, said after the court meeting: "This decision throws into doubt the validity of the national joint council agreement. A court of law has made an interpretation which is quite out of line with the way the agreement has been worked."

The case hear di nthe Court of Appeal involved Mr Alan Edwards, one of six London firemen fined for stealing from the Sellotape Company, where they were working as relief firemen during the recent strike.

When they returned to work on January 16 after the end of the strike, they found notices from Mr Darby and the Greater London Council threatening them with dismissal. Mr Edwards, on behalf of the other men, and supported by the union, sought an injunction against the GLC and Mr Darby to block that move.

The injunction was not granted. Yesterday's hearing was an appeal against that decision. Mr Peter Weitzman, QC, for Mr Edwards, said his client was entitled to be dealt with under the agreement's provisions on discipline as a matter of established practice and because of the agreement between the London Fire Brigade and the union.

But Lord Denning, Lord Justice Ormond and Lord Justice Geoffrey Lane said the correct procedure had been followed. Lord Denning said it must be possible to trust firemen not to steal property from houses they entered



Mrs Yvonne Kathleen Ann Jones who battled with police officers trying to take her fingerprints after a trivial driving incident, was declared innocent of assault, driving and damage offences by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday. Mrs Jones, aged 44, of Richmond Road, Kingston upon Thames, who was sentenced at Kingston Crown Court on February 25 last year, had her convictions quashed and sentence set aside. Mr Justice Peter Pain, sitting with Lord Justice Shaw and Mr Justice Mais, said she was right to resist fingerprinting forcibly in September, 1976.

Law Report, page 10

Tory group pushes electoral reform

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

A call for the Conservative Party to commit itself more strongly to electoral reform, well ahead of the next general election, was made yesterday by the unofficial party group working for proportional representation.

Conservative Action for Electoral Reform published a pamphlet entitled *The Speaker's Conference*, the point being that such a conference is all the Conservative Party is at present committed to.

The pamphlet softens its conclusion by welcoming the party's commitment to a Speaker's conference as being better than nothing. But it sets out tough conditions to improve the proceedings. It proposes that selection of conference members should be left genuinely to the Speaker, rather than choosing party "place-men", as in the past.

It wants the conferences to sit in public, with proceedings fully published; and the government of the day to give an advance undertaking to support a Bill after the conference's resolutions.

Introducing the pamphlet, Sir Nigel Fisher, vice-president of the group and MP for Kingston upon Thames, Surbiton, argued that a form of proportional representation (he favours the alternative member system) could insure against extremes. It would, he said "dish Mr Wedgwood Benn", as well as the extreme right.

He recognized, as do all the group's 31 MP members, that Mrs Thatcher opposes such reform, even though, apparently, she has not said so in public.

The group's strategy is the "drip, drip process", Mr John Rathbone, MP for Lewes, said. His amendment proposing the alternative member system for the European Assembly elections is now to be put in the House of Lords, where it has a chance of insertion in the Bill, if not of eventual retention by the House of Commons.

Architect charg

Mr James Phillip Lo aged 64, will face a charg disgraceful professional duct at a hearing of the di linary committee of the A tects' Registration Council April 18.

Mr Lomas was head of firm of architects that desig the Summerland leisure ce at Douglas, Isle of Man, w burnt down in 1973.

Teacher found guilty of plot to supply LSD

Martin Annable's double life as a respectable schoolteacher who was also the cashier of a world-wide drug network ended at Bristol Crown Court yesterday when he was convicted of conspiring to supply LSD to a drug ring described by Mr Justice Park as "a vast enterprise whose sales network stretched from this country to foreign parts".

Mr Annable, aged 29, of Radnor Gardens, Twickenham, London, who taught English at a west London girls' school, was found guilty by a majority of 11 to one. The judge remanded him in custody to a date to be fixed when he will be sentenced with other defendants.

The judge said large sums were needed to buy the basic chemicals, which had to be shipped from Basle, Switzerland, and a house, which had to be equipped as a laboratory.

"There is evidence that well over 90 per cent of LSD seized in Britain had come from Seymour Road", a house at Hampton Wick, London.

Mr Annable had originally been in the dock with three other people, two women and a man, but they changed their pleas during the trial and the judge said he would deal with them later.

Former Speaker and wife ill

Lord Maybray-King, aged 76, a former Speaker of the House of Commons, and his wife, who is 71, are suffering from pneumonia.

Lady Maybray-King is in hospital, but her husband is being looked after at his Southampton home by his daughter.

Theatre daubed

Large amounts of paint were daubed over windows, doors and walls at the National Theatre, on the South Bank, London, early yesterday morning in what was apparently a protest about the running of the arts.

Two elect trial on race hate charge

Michael Cole, aged 41, of Chester Road, East Shorton, Clwyd, and George Jones, aged 32, of Southborough Terrace, Leamington Spa, members of the British Movement, elected to go for trial on two charges at Leamington Magistrates' Court yesterday. They were formally committed on bail to Warwick Crown Court.

They were charged with using abusive or insulting words likely to stir up racial hatred and using threatening abusive or insulting words likely to cause a breach of the peace.

Labour planning to set up factories groups

By Our Political Editor

Labour Party groups are to be set up in factories in a national campaign for the next election, the party's organization committee decided yesterday. They will stimulate party supporters' activity, and all units of party organization are being asked to encourage the establishment of the groups.

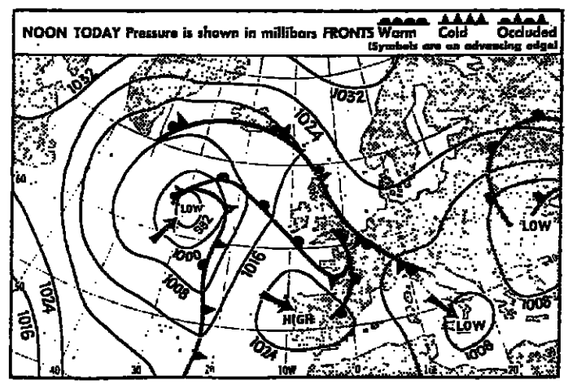
Since Labour's local party organizations have become run down and tiny and cliquish in many parts of the country the idea is to try to revive party feeling among the many industrial workers who pay the "political levy" to the party in their union dues, often without realizing it. As it is, the unions dominate the party through the influence of the block vote based on the levy.

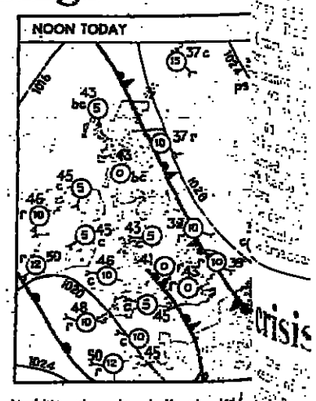
What employers and unions might feel about having political parties on the shop floor is not clear: nor is it clear whether yesterday's party meeting discussed it.

The new party committee considering organizational revision is being asked to examine whether the factory groups can be given full branch status, affiliated to constituency parties, and be authorized to send delegates to management committees.

The committee also decided to ask the party's national executive committee to send two MPs to the Channel Islands to report on what it called the "feudal system there". Mr Ronald Hayward, the party's general secretary, disclosed that for some years he had been under pressure from Labour supporters in the islands to stimulate reform of the "tax haven" status. A party research document setting out options such as integration of the islands in the United Kingdom taxation system, and ending the tax haven at a stroke, was considered by the committee.

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 7.30 am Sun sets: 5.0 pm
Moon rises: 7.0 am Moon sets: 5.16 pm
New moon: 2.54 pm.
Lighting up: 5.30 pm to 6.58 am.
High water: London Bridge, 1.12 am, 7m (22.9ft); 1.41 pm, 7.1m (23.4ft). Avonmouth, 6.56 am, 13.7m (45.1ft); 7.19 pm, 13.7m (44.9ft). Dover, 10.37 am, 6.8m (22.3ft); 11.3 pm, 7m (23.1ft). Hull, 5.47 am, 7.3m (24.1ft); 6.1 pm, 7.6m (24.9ft). Liverpool, 10.51 am, 9.7m (31.8ft); 11.20 pm, 9.5m (31.2ft).

Troughs of low pressure will move slowly over the British Isles.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, Midlands, SE, central N and central S England: Rather cloudy, occasional rain, bright intervals in places; wind variable light; max temp 7°C (45°F).

East Anglia, E England: Mostly cloudy, rain at times; wind light, becoming E; max temp 5°C (41°F).

SW England, S Wales, Channel Islands: Rain in places at first, bright or sunny intervals developing; wind W to NW light or moderate; max temp 8-9°C (46-48°F).

Lake District, NW England, N Wales: Rather cloudy, rain in places, bright intervals developing; wind variable, light; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Borders, NE England, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: Cloudy, rain at times, snow, especially on hills; wind variable or SE, light; max temp 4°C (39°F).

Glasgow, Argyll, NW and SW Scotland, N Ireland: Cloudy, rain in places, bright or sunny intervals developing; wind variable or SW, light; max temp 7-8°C (45-46°F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, rain at times, some snow, especially on hills; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 3°C (37°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Becoming colder, mostly dry, but E areas will be wintry showers; frost and fog patches at night.

Sea passages: S North Sea: Wind variable light, locally moderate; sea slight.

Strait of Dover, English Channel (E).—Wind mainly NW light, locally moderate; sea slight.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea—Wind mainly W light, or moderate; sea slight.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 9°C (48°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 4°C (38°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 81 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.07in. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 1.1h. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,018 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

	C	F		C	F		C	F
Aberdeen	f	6	43	Cardiff	r	7	45	Jersey	s	8	46	Naples	f	9	48
Algiers	c	15	59	Cologne	c	3	37	L Palmas	f	23	73	New York	sn	3	37
Amsterdm	c	5	41	Copenhgn	sn	-2	28	Lisbon	s	17	63	Nice	s	8	46
Athens	c	10	50	Dublin	r	7	45	Locarno	s	9	48	Oslo	sn	-1	30
Barcelona	f	15	59	Edinburgh	r	7	45	London	r	7	45	Paris	c	7	45
Belfast	c	10	50	Florence	c	7	45	Luxemburg	c	1	34	Reykjavik	c	3	37
Belgrade	f	6	43	Funchal	f	17	63	Madrid	c	10	50	Rome	s	12	54
Berlin	sn	-1	30	Geneva	c	3	37	Majorca	s	14	57	Stockhlm	sn	-1	30
Biarritz	c	10	50	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Malaga	s	17	63	Tel Aviv	s	17	63
Birmingham	r	6	43	Guernsey	f	8	46	Malta	s	15	59	Venice	s	7	45
Bristol	r	7	45	Helsinki	c	-1	30	Manchestr	r	5	41	Vienna	s	0	32
Brussels	c	4	39	Inverness	f	1	34	Metz	c	-2	28	Warsaw	c	-2	28
Budapest	f	3	37	Istanbul	f	9	48	Munich	c	-1	30	Zurich	s	1	34

b—blue sky; bc—half clouded/cloudy; o—overcast; s—sun; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; sn—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pi—periodical rain with snow.

Overseas selling prices: Austria, Sch 18; Belgium, Fr 15; Canaries, Pes 60; Denmark, Dkr 1.50; Finland, Fmk 3.50; France, Fr 1.50; Germany, Dmk 0.80; Greece, Dr 25; Holland, Gl 1.00; Hungary, Fo 6.00; Italy, Lire 700; Luxembourg, Lf 25; Madeira, Esc 25.00; Malta, 12p; Norway, Kr 1.50; Portugal, Esc 25.00; Spain, Pes 60; Sweden, Skr 1.50; Switzerland, Sfr 1.50; USA, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 24.

Former 'FT' editor 'defended columnist against board'

Sir Gordon Newton, former editor of the *Financial Times*, gave evidence yesterday at the industrial tribunal hearing of an application for a ruling of unfair dismissal by Mr C. Gordon Tether, the newspaper's former columnist.

Mr Tether's dismissal 16 months ago was the culmination of a dispute about the editorial control exercised by Mr M. H. (Fredy) Fisher, the present editor, over the "Lombard" column, which Mr Tether wrote for 21 years.

Mr Tether, aged 63, of Worplesdon, Surrey, rejected the newspaper's compensation offer of full pay until retirement and an unaffected pension. Sir Gordon, editor for more than twenty years and now retired, was succeeded by Mr Fisher in 1973.

Sir Gordon said that if an article by Mr Tether needed to be cut he would cut it. If he thought the language went "a bit too far" he might tone it down. Sometimes, when he cut the column drastically, he would receive a note of complaint. But Mr Tether was not the only journalist who occasionally complained.

Sir Gordon said he might have spoken a few times to Mr Tether about the subject matter of the columns but he would not ban a subject. Mr Tether was amenable to suggestions from him. Most people were.

The column was edited more heavily at the beginning of his editorship than at the end, when Mr Tether was writing more concisely.

"I would always examine his articles with a pen in my hand. Whether I used that pen a lot or not at all varied from day to day according to the circumstances", Sir Gordon said. He would not alter the opinions expressed in an article but might alter the strength of those opinions.

Sir Gordon said he always defended Mr Tether's column on occasions when it was disapproved of by members of the *Financial Times* board.

Mr William Wells, chairman of the tribunal, asked Sir Gordon what the duty was of an editor who found it difficult to establish a working relationship with a distinguished columnist of long standing.

He replied that the columnist should be told that his talents might be more usefully employed elsewhere.

Mr John Jones, the newspaper's managing editor, described the different editorial styles of Sir Gordon and Mr Fisher. Mr Fisher was a "shirt-sleeve" editor. He could talk to journalists about anything from the money supply to the football results. Sir Gordon had considerable diplomatic gifts.

The hearing continues today.

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OME NEWS

Mr Pym outlines four basic ways o improve government of cotland within framework of UK

n Ronald Faux
burgh

ere are four basic choices the future government of and, Mr Pym, opposition esman on devolution, said dinburgh yesterday: the ing system with a new committee and a greater for the Scottish Grand mittee; an inquisitorial bly; a quasi-federal m; or a separate legisla- assembly.

he most extreme arm- ng and party pressure was ed in Parliament to carry gh the Government's Bill, abour MPs do not believe , nor does the House of noos. There is a smell of nesty, at the least intel- al dishonesty, about it. idences are not clear", Mr declared.

said the Government's osals would weaken Scot- voice in the United King- Cabinet, where vital ions affecting the future otland would continue to ade. They would lead to ict between the United lom Cabinet and the sh Cabinet and between vo parliaments. "They can cause damage to our , both economic and cal damage, and that must r the prosperity and ss of every family in the ry."

intense and bitter party cal dogfight was no way solve the issues raised by ution wisely. That was ie had refused to commit Conservative Party to a atic solution. Mr Pym ed the whole conduct of ebate at Westminster had wn the United Kingdom Pym outlined the submis- he Tories would make to ll-party constitutional con- e for which it has called. epeated the Conservative s fears about the dangers ishing into big constitu- changes and accused the nment of being un- edly partisan. He said it oncerned solely with try- save Labour seats from the Scottish National Party challenge.

Mr Pym said the public was bewildered and confused. There were growing signs of doubt and anxiety in Scotland about the Government's proposals.

Turning to the four options open for the future government of Scotland, Mr Pym said the status quo had been ceaselessly criticized, yet it had worked well and largely to the advantage of Scotland. United Kingdom resources had been distributed purely on the basis of need. As a result Scotland had received about £500m more a year than population alone would justify. At the same time Scots had paid less in taxes, and the discrepancy had been accepted by the rest of the United Kingdom.

Was it likely that such an uneven distribution of resources would continue if Parliament were asked to vote specific sums to Scotland and lost all influence on how it was spent?

He believed that some of the pressure for change had arisen because Parliament itself had not changed enough and because Parliament was not working as it should. The existing system for Scotland could be developed without removing the advantages of a single parliament, and Mr Pym suggested a select committee of Scottish MPs with powers to investigate and propose new policies on matters affecting Scotland.

He said also that the Scottish Grand Committee could take on a wider remit, meeting more often and with its own question time and debates. That would make ministers more accountable and provide a greater opportunity for Scottish business to be discussed. The disadvantages, he admitted, were that an even greater burden would be placed on Scottish MPs and many Scots would still feel that they needed a body in Scotland to speak for them.

The second option was an inquisitorial assembly that would ease the pressure on Scottish MPs and provide more time for scrutinizing the Scottish administration. Although it would not have an executive or full legislative responsibility, no government could afford to ignore the constructive and informed views that came from such an elected body. The drawback for many would be the lack of executive power, without which, it was contended, such an assembly would be futile.

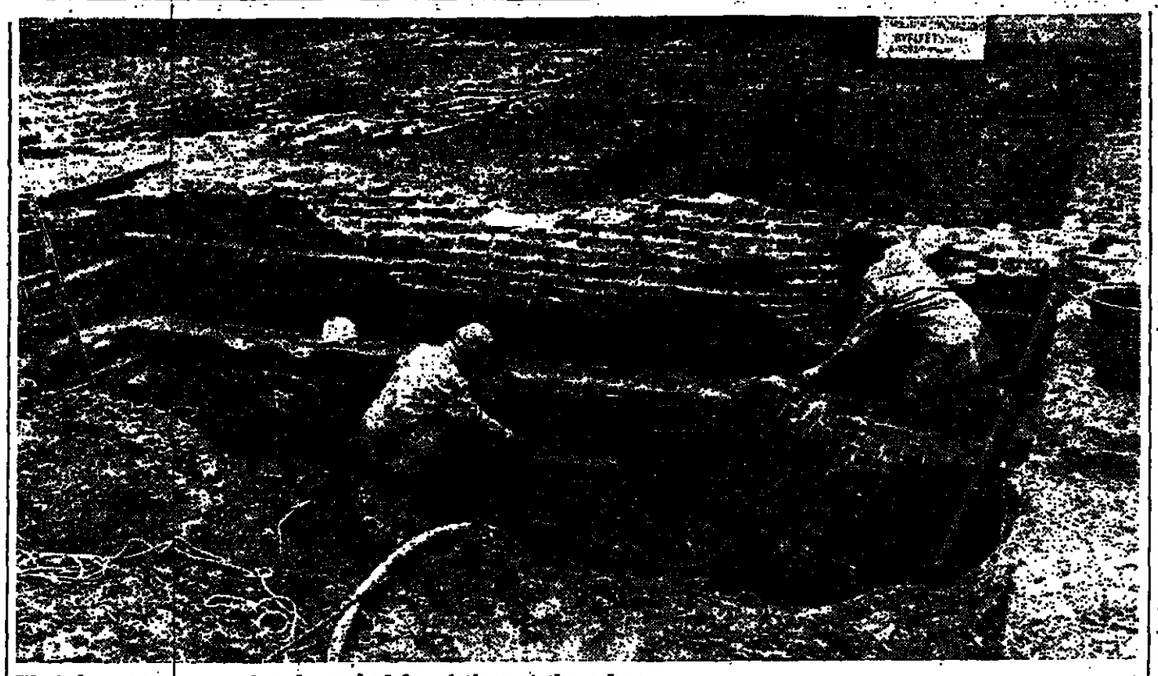
If such an assembly was rejected some form of federalism was possible with a United Kingdom parliament retaining overall sovereignty and power to legislate for all parts of Britain. The one serious disadvantage was that the English and Welsh showed no sign of contemplating such a radical change in their government.

If a separate legislative assembly was eventually introduced, the House of Commons would have to accept the anomalies thus created, including the fact that Scottish and English MPs would have different powers and voting rights.

The final option was independence, and the reality of that would prove very different from the idea, Mr Pym said. The cost in terms of confidence, and with 60 of every 100 Scottish jobs controlled outside the country, would cause much suffering. "Independence may be an option in constitutional terms, but it is not something that the vast majority of Scots want anything to do with", he said.

Scots "waking up": It was encouraging that the people of Scotland were waking up to the dangers of the Government's devolution Bill, Mr Edward Taylor, Tory spokesman on Scottish affairs, said at Cambridge yesterday (the Press Association reports). When the Tories decided to oppose the Bill a year ago all the signs were that most Scots favoured it, he said. Now opinion polls suggested that feeling in Scotland was about equally divided, and as public debate continued opposition would grow, he said.

Leading article, page 15



Work in progress uncovering the arched foundations at the palace.

Brick foundations of Henry VIII's Palace of Bridewell discoveed on building site near the Thames

By Philip Howard

Massive brick foundations of Henry VIII's Palace of Bridewell have been discovered on a building site between Fleet Street and the Thames. They are going to fill in large blanks in our knowledge of this historic building and the historic corner of the City where the Fleet runs into the Thames.

The earliest known inhabitants of Bridewell were the Knights Templar by 1161. Cardinal Wolsey bought the site, and prudently gave it to Henry when his Palace of Westminster burnt down. Henry completed Bridewell by 1523 at a cost of £25,000.

Before it was finished he moved in for the prolonged negotiations for his divorce from Catherine of Aragon, which took place in the monastery of Blackfriars across the Fleet. Bridewell was almost ready for the state visit of Charles V, the Holy Roman Emperor.

A special bridge was built across the Fleet and through the city wall to link the palace with the monastery where Charles was staying.

Surprisingly little is known about Bridewell. John Stow described it as stately and beautiful. A partial survey shows that it consisted of a great hall, chapel, and three long galleries around three courtyards, the southernmost fronting the Thames. It was built of brick with stone dressings and octagonal stair towers, like those in the Tudor part of Hampton Court.

Very large brick foundations resting upon a series of arches have been uncovered with the help of machinery lent by the developers, Haslemere Estates.

Because of the boggy site Bridewell seems to have been raised on wooden piles and huge brick arches above the mud.

Its foundations were so solid that the modern developers may be able to use them. The palace was a crossroads of two architectural epochs; the arch, which was the heart of medieval architecture, met the brick, which Henry VIII introduced and made fashionable in his 13 great palaces.

We seem to have found the east wing of the main courtyard. There are puzzles about it, which further rescue excavation for the next five weeks may answer.

For instance, two very large Tudor walls bound with different mortars lie within a yard of each other. Then there is an odd series of cross walls close together.

There should be an arched gateway leading to the chapel courtyard which is now under New Bridge Street. The black mud at the base of the arches is full of freshwater snails, confirming the theory that the Bridewell was raised out of river land.

Henry soon moved out of his new palace. Perhaps the stink from the Fleet, always a main sewer, was too much for him. In any case, by hook and by crook he had acquired bigger palaces at Hampton Court and Whitehall: Edward VI gave Bridewell to the city as a workhouse.

It was burned almost to the ground in the Great Fire, and later rebuilt. By 1863 the workhouse had moved elsewhere, and Victorian buildings were raised upon the old foundations. Now the department of urban archaeology of the Museum of London under its chief archaeologist, Mr Brian Hobley, and field officer, Mr John Schofield, has rescued from oblivion a good part of the most elusive of Tudor palaces.

Jail staff 'raise more issues than prisoners'

By a Staff Reporter

Prison staff now probably present more difficulties than prisoners, the prison and borstal governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants says yesterday in evidence, published yesterday, to the House of Commons Expenditure Committee's inquiry into the administration of the prison service.

The governors say that over the past six years staff difficulties have multiplied and led to many cases of industrial action. An actual reduction in take-home pay for many prison officers, as a result of big cuts in staff overtime, is deeply resented. Industrial action brings a new dimension to the management of prisons, which, unlike factories, cannot be shut during a dispute.

They point out that many governors take home less pay than junior officers. They call for differentials to be restored and for governors to be given parity with prison officers in respect of weekend premiums, shift disturbance allowance and London weighting.

Implementation of the cuts in expenditure recommended by the Government last year would reduce conditions in penal establishments to a level intolerable for inmates, staff and management, and unacceptable to Parliament and society.

They support the greater use of non-custodial penalties and bail to reduce the present custodial population.

The governors are concerned that the prison service accommodates without charge three groups who are the responsibility of other services.

There are those convicted under the age of 17, who are meant to be the responsibility of local authorities, an increasing number of people awaiting deportation who are held in ordinary prisons for the immigration service; and an unknown number of psychiatric patients in prisons who are properly the concern of the National Health Service.

BC Radio ales to expanded

nneth Gosling

significant expansion of adio Wales will take place autumn when Radio 4 to the long wave, Mr Trethowan, Director- l of the BBC, said in last night.

because Wales is the difficult part of the Kingdom to serve with irters, and because there hortage of finance and ncies, it is unlikely ever the additional television that would keep it ently one step ahead of t of the United Kingdom.

rethowan said the Radio development would be d a year later by the ion of Radio Cymru.

at you will have then", "will be two all-Wales nmes, and in addition to, tead of, Radio 4."

t remained to be done: ad to be found of im- reception throughout because there would still in VHF coverage even he opening of two new adio Cymru transmitters next few weeks, bringing vice to an additional listeners in parts of and the old Carmar- e.

would still be gaps in -wave coverage, par- at night.

rethowan added: "The ment of Radio Wales dio Cymru as all-Wales must be our first We cannot concentrate ources on the three or aces in Wales where adio on the English ould be appropriate."

planned eventually to both Radio Wales and Cymru for limited of the day so that local r particular communi- ld be broadcast.

recordings

Guardsman gets 'life' for murder of widow

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

Guardsman Andrew Nicholson, aged 22, on leave from Northern Ireland, decided to use his army training to rob a widow's home, it was stated at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday. He treated the crime exactly like a night exercise, by wearing combat gear and smearing his face with cream and boot polish.

After crawling to the house on all fours, "just like a leopard", he was disturbed by the woman as he searched for her handbag. Then, it was added, he struck out with a kitchen knife.

Mrs Gladys Todd, aged 56, of Runswick Drive, Arnold, Nottingham, was found dead two days later. She had knife wounds on her neck, head injuries and had been strangled with a cardigan.

Guardsman Nicholson was jailed by Mr Justice Stephen Brown for life for murder.

Mr Dennis Barker, QC, for the prosecution, said inquiries led the police to the defendant's home in Leivers Avenue, Arnold.

Guardsman Nicholson had told detectives: "I did not go there intending to kill her. It became an army exercise. I was trapped and she recognized me. The knife was by my side and it must have been my army training and instinct."

Accident proved efficiency of self-righting boat

An investigation by the Royal National Life-boat Institution into an accident on Christmas Eve when the lifeboat from Kilmore Quay, co Wexford, capsized twice, but righted itself twice, has provided conclusive evidence of the merits of the design of the new boat, the institution said yesterday.

The capsize, in which one man died, was the first on service of one of the institution's modern self-righting boats

The boat, Lady Murphy, was built in 1972 and is one of 26 of the 37ft Oakley self-righting class in the institution's fleet. That type of boat uses a transfer of water ballast to right itself.

After the disaster in 1970, when all except one of the crew of the Fraserburgh lifeboat died, the institution undertook a large reconstruction programme. Its aim is to have all offshore lifeboats self-righting by 1980.

Students' union wants bigger teacher force

The National Union of Students will put to the Government today a programme aimed at improving schools, saving teachers' jobs and helping jobless young people. It proposes the abolition of all classes of more than 30 by 1981 and a bigger teacher force.

The union is to ask Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to spend an extra £70m over the next two years to take on an additional 20,000 teachers each year and to introduce in 1979 a new phased programme for a million new places in schools and colleges to meet the education and training needs of workers between 16 and 19, including unemployed school leavers.

It will urge Mrs Williams to reconsider her department's policy on teacher training and numbers "if a crisis is to be avoided in the 1980s".

Steep rie in cases of malaia

By John Roper
Health Services Crespondent

Cases of malar influenza, food poisoning a poliomyelitis in England a Wales all increased in 197 the latest government statists, published today, show.

In the 1960s notifications of malaria averaged bout a hundred a year; the ure in 1976 was 1,162.

In recent wes medical journals have sested that general practitioners should consider the disee as a possible differentia diagnosis. Many more peop are going abroad for holida and not all take necessary precautions against malaria. The main source of infection the Indian subcontinent, accding to the report.

The report says eaths from influenza appear o reach a peak after mid-Feruary. Food poisoning, which h increased every year for 1 years, was higher again in 19, with 9,051 notifications. Thbiggest outbreak involved po ies. It began in the West idlands but spread widely bause of a national athletics eting attended by children nd teachers from the infectedrea.

Statistics of Infectius Diseases, 1976 (Stationery fice, £1.75).

Pay awar for Boots staf

Eight hundred ientific staff employed by Boo have been awarded pay incases of between 15 and 25 p cent by the Central Arbitratio Committee, after an applicaon by the Association of Scntific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

The committee und that the company was payg its scientific staff less thi other employers in the ilustry. The increases are ickdated to January 1, 1977.

PC may lse job over assalt

Michael Hughe aged 21, a policeman, who wa said to have taken the law to his own hands, may lose is job as a result, York magistrates said yesterday.

Pc Hughes, who is serving at Garforth, West Yrkshire, was fined £10 and ordered to pay £46 costs for assaulting a man whom he suspected of knowing about a theft fro his motor cycle.

Two supporters fined £250

Two men arrest during the Scottish Cup tie beween Albion Rovers and Morn at Coatbridge, Strathclyd on Sunday were each fined £20 at Airdrie Sheriff Court yesterday.

John Gallaher, aged 24, of Rosepark Cottages Coatbridge, and Hugh Hampse aged 18, of Banff Road, Greenck, admitted disorderly behavior and engaging in a fight on th terraces.

Dog thrown o to line

Hertfordshire poce started a search yesterday fo a man who was seen to throw a dog from the railway bridg in Julians Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, into the path of an express train.

e crisis that threatens a millenium

of the 60,000 per- residents of the Isle of beginning to wonder their preperations for ium celebration next d they do not think ations can beat that) e accompanied by constitutional crisis.

ews that judges from pean Court of Human ave declined to visit d before pronouncing on birching is leading ions that the decision against the declared f the island govern- d that friction will the British Govern- to enforce it.

reat is not preventing ons to mark the esti- anniversary of 1,000 a continuous demo- stration on July 5,

h the precise date is and the decade has llenged by some his- community leaders re is enough evidence "Court of the Sud- founded in the 970s y some exceptional ns which, they hope t world-wide interest extra tourists.

r the relations with ed Kingdom govern- hen, there will be no ith the Crown and hopes that the occa- be graced by royalty,

Regional report

John Chartres
Douglas, Isle of Man

preferably arriving in the royal yacht.

Mr Charles Kerruish, Speaker of the House of Keys, is one of many political figures who think the millenium celebrations should have a strongly nautical flavour throughout, to commemorate a community with so many associations with the sea, as the residence historically of such figures as the Christian family and Sir William Hillary, founder of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. A tall ships race or rally has been proposed.

After several disappointing tourist seasons, contributed to by fare increase and the decline in mainland spending power, there is intense interest in the recent arrangement by the Irish Government to sell duty-free tobacco and alcohol on aircraft and ferries between the republic and Britain.

Technical discussions are being conducted with a view to increasing duty-free concessions on services between Ireland and the Isle of Man, possibly by this summer. Similar concessions between the Isle of Man and Britain will take longer to arrange (they have been under discussion for years and usually rejected in the past on the grounds of administrative costs) but the Irish move is seen as an important breakthrough.

A detailed study 18 months ago that recommended that the Isle of Man should break away from the United Kingdom customs and excise system, still lies before a select committee of the Tynwald Government.

Mr Kerruish favours changing the constitution so that the island would be absolutely responsible for all internal affairs instead of leaving Westminster responsible for "good government" in the Isle of Man.

There is considerable optimism, however, in the tourist industry over prospects for the next five years. To more than 1,000 hotel and boarding house proprietors the visions of "duty free" on the boats and planes, the millennium and perhaps some worldwide reporting of an intriguing constitutional clash seem to add up to the best publicity prospects they have seen since the Island's setback resulting from the Summerland fire disaster.

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AIR CANADA

HOME NEWS

Court gave bail to man now sought by police

Sidney Noble, aged 49, named by the police as the man they want to interview in their inquiries into robberies from at least 50 elderly women throughout Britain, was at one time in the hands of the police at Derby but was allowed bail by a judge at the Crown Court, it was disclosed yesterday.

Mr Noble appeared before Derby magistrates on September 23, last year, and was sent for trial, in custody, to Derby Crown Court. He told the judge at the Crown Court that he needed more time for his defence, and was granted bail.

He never answered to his bail and a warrant was issued for his arrest. In Derby, he faced charges of deception and burglary and theft. In one of the cases, it was said, he had pretended to be a doctor.

A Manchester doctor has given the police a valuable lead in the search for Mr Noble, the so-called Dr Death. On Saturday the doctor gave a man resembling the wanted man a 25-mile lift in his car from Conwy, Gwynedd, to Holywell, Clwyd. The man was carrying a holdall.

Det Chief Supt Eric Evans, head of North Wales CID, said yesterday: "When the passenger found out the driver was a doctor he said he knew two doctors. He mentioned their names; and both of them have been used by 'Dr Death' during his frauds. "There seems a very strong suggestion that the pasenger was 'Dr Death'".

The real doctor told the police on Saturday night. On Sunday, when he saw the photograph of the wanted man in newspapers, he said it was similar to the man he had picked up. Detectives throughout North Wales were trying yesterday to trace the man.

Northampton police said yesterday that the man being sought lodged in the town for a few days last month, and while there tricked women of more than £1,000.

Devon and Cornwall police urged elderly people yesterday to keep by their bedsides a photograph of the man the police want to interview.

Det Supt Eric Rundle, acting head of Devon and Cornwall CID, said: "If you have an elderly neighbour or relative cut the picture out of your paper and give it to them to keep in a prominent place. If a stranger calls they can compare him with the photograph. It could prevent a tragedy."

Fortnightly payment of jobless benefit to be recommended

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

A new system of fortnightly payments of unemployment benefit is likely to be recommended soon to Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment. A working party report will say that that could save £8m a year and would be preferred by both unemployed people and staff.

The report is still being considered by a joint working party of management and staff set up to monitor and evaluate pilot schemes in 36 local unemployment benefit offices around Britain.

Civil Service unions protested when the experiment began last September that claimants would find fortnightly payments more difficult to cope with since many of their outgoings are made weekly. It was also feared that fortnightly payments would increase fraud.

Questionnaires addressed to both claimants and staff during the three-month monitoring period show that those fears were groundless. Forms were given to a tenth of the 50,000 unemployed people who changed to fortnightly payments; three quarters responded. Of those three quarters were in favour of fortnightly payments; 55 per cent found no difficulty in managing their money on the new basis.

Many claimants said they preferred the new system because they saved on bus fares, and did not have to wait so long for payment because offices were less crowded. But 2 per cent of them asked to go back to a weekly system, mainly because they disliked having to cash giro cheques for large amounts.

Of the eight hundred staff asked, five hundred responded. Most said they found the new system acceptable, particularly since it gave more time to deal with inquiries. They also hoped that it would enable them to close offices half an hour earlier, in line with social security offices. Some were worried that fraud would increase, since fortnightly payments involved paying benefit one week in arrear and one week in advance.

In fact, overpayments not recovered amounted to 0.12 per cent of the amount paid out, which would be equivalent to £650,000 a year if the system was extended to all offices. At least half of all overpayments are made through clerical error, however.

Overpayments of that order are less than the savings in postal charges to be made by paying benefit fortnightly instead of weekly. Many of these overpaid through the fortnightly system voluntarily returned the money.

The biggest savings would be achieved by cutting staff. The monitoring exercise showed that fortnightly payments would require 7 per cent fewer staff, equivalent to 1,400 jobs, and less than the 9 to 11 per cent natural wastage already experienced in the department.

The full report will probably be published in March, when it will be presented to Parliament. Mr Booth will consult Cabinet colleagues, officials and staff before deciding.

Campaign to revese decision on M1 rm

From Road Kershaw
Leeds

A campan launched in Leeds yesterday aimed at reversing a decisiony the Ministry of Transport, the M1 extension route nort from Yorkshire to the Northeast. The Blue Route Actoio Grop comprises representatives of industry, commerce, moving organizations and a powdal section of public opinion in orth-east and Northwest England.

The grp contends that the economy al environment of an important art of Britain will suffer irvarible damage unless Mr Idgers, Secretary of State for Insport, changes the decision t made last July to route the extension east of Leeds.

His choi, known as the brown rou, runs from a point north of Aloefield, by-passes Leeds on te east, and follows the line the A1 north to Dishforth. The blue route bypasses Lee on the west, Bradford on theast, and Harrogate and Knaresborough on the west.

Mr Chrlopher Warner, chairman of thgroup and managing director t-e Leeds company, yesterday escribed the minister's decion as illogical, perverse and dispalling.

He said "His route flagrantly neglects a economic, industrial and envirnmental considerations. It irresponsibly contradicts the Government's industrial strate and the principal objectives of Mr Rodgers's own White Pap on transport."

The grp includes chambers of commce in Manchester, Sheffield, Bradford and Teesside, Britn Road Services, the CBI, the RC, the Road Haulage Associatio and 19,000 companies.

Mr Warer said only 8,000 people, 1 tr cent of the adult populationin the study area, responded to questionnaires and the minister made his decision on awo to one majority of those splies. Mr Rodgers had underestimaned the cost of delays dung construction on upgrading 5 miles of the A1 between etherby and Dishforth.

By the id-1980s, with construction its height, 46,000 vehicles aday would be using the road orth of Wetherby. Reconstruion would take 18 months, al total congestion would cost 15m compared with the £6m quted by the Department of Insport.

The broa route required demolition of 25 houses, inflicted noise on 1,0 houses and would use more iod farm land than the blue oute, which would require on 45 houses to be demolished and affect 660 with noise.

Mr Warer said the action group wou first campaign for a review the situation

First-time buyers' Bill introduced

First-time home buyers will receive government help if a Bill introduced in the Commons yesterday becoes law. The savings bonus and loan schemes provided for in the Bill were foreshadowed in the Queen's Speech at the opening of Parliament.

The proposals are for a bonus to be paid on up to £1,000 of savings held by a first-time purchaser, and a loan of £500 for each first-time purchaser who has saved at least £500 over at last two years before purchase and is buying a house within specified price limits.

Bonus and loan will be paid at the time of purchase. The loan will be interest-free for five years and then repair with interest over the remaining period of the mortgage.

Since making its plans known the Government has been in consultation with organizations that might operate the schemes, including building societies, local authorities and banks.

The Bill, authorizing the use of public money for assisting first-time purchasers, will also increase the financial limit governing housing corporation powers to guarantee loans to housing associations and similar organizations.

Judge orders naming of girl in rape case

By John Groser

The provision of section 4 of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 1976, was invoked at the Central Criminal Court yesterday when Judge Miskin, QC, the Recorder, ordered that the name of a girl, described as a prostitute, who alleged that she has been raped should be published before the case is tried.

Section 4 provides, among other things, that if publication of the name in such a case might help to bring forward witnesses a judge could break the so-called "anonymity rule" and allow publication of a witness's name.

Judge Miskin made such a ruling after it was argued that the accused man would be prevented from tracing witnesses if the name of his accuser was not published. Under the 1976 Act, women in rape cases usually have anonymity.

The girl who made the accusation of rape is Lorraine Brown, aged 17, who was not in court yesterday. Nor was the man she accuses. He is apparently a wealthy company director, who is also (at this stage) protected from publicity by the Act and was referred to as Mr X.

Mrs Clare Tritton, the man's counsel, made her successful application for the name of the accuser to be "given as much publicity as possible". She said it was vital to the defendant's case; he denies both rape and assault.

He maintains that Miss Brown is a Mayfair call girl, known thereabouts for offering services "outside the normal ambits" and that flagellation is a speciality for which she charges up to £100.

When Miss Brown, of Brixton made a statement to the police, she denied that she was a prostitute or that she had willingly agreed to be whipped. Mrs Tritton said Mr X gave Miss Brown an IOU for £120 after picking her up near Park Lane last October.

He and the woman had intercourse but later she complained to the police that it was without her consent and that she had been tied to the corners of a bed and beaten, also without her consent.

Judge Miskin said he had to consider Miss Brown's feelings when she "saw her name plastered all over the national dailies". Mrs Tritton replied: "It could be argued that it might boost her trade."

The judge said he agreed with counsel that the defence was entitled to seek to attempt to prove that Miss Brown "is not only a prostitute, but one who holds out a special kind of rather attractive sideshow for clients who preferred it".

Women Against Rape said last night that Judge Miskin's decision had serious implications.

WEST EUROPE

Signor Andreotti in new attempt to give Italy government

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Feb 6

Signor Giulio Andreotti, who offered his resignation 24 days ago, is preparing to set off tomorrow on a fresh round of consultations to see whether he can succeed himself as Prime Minister.

The main uncertainty is how far Signor Andreotti can ask for the collaboration of the Communists and what concessions he can now make to them. Although the point at issue is simple enough, he is having to make it appear highly complicated because of the growing influence of conservative opinion within his own ranks.

Therefore he has invented the idea of a minority Christian Democrat administration which would carry out a programme agreed with other parties, including the Communists, who would all be able to support the programme in Parliament. The Government's work would be supervised by a directorate consisting of the leaders of the parliamentary groups backing the programme.

This ingenious construction leaves unanswered the problem of whether the Communists will in fact be treated like everyone else and, above all, be allowed to vote by prior, formal agreement in favour of the Government on the vote of confidence. This is their main remaining demand after their proposal for an emergency government to include themselves was rejected by the Christian Democrats.

The leader of the Christian Democrat Party's group in the Chamber, Signor Flaminio Piccoli, is reported as saying unequivocally that there can be no question of accepting Communist votes as part of the official majority. If this is so it is difficult to see how Friday's meeting of the executive changed matters.

The Communists themselves said this morning that the ambiguities can and must be clarified in the course of the negotiations. They pointed out not only the difficulties encountered in searching for the "authentic" interpretation to be placed on Christian Democrat phraseology but that one leading Rome newspaper led its front page on two consecutive days with two totally contrasting editorial conclusions on Christian Democrat intentions.

The second, which was presumably thought about at greater length, saw the offer to the Communists as too small for them to accept.

Certainly, there is no obvious end yet in sight to the problem of giving the country a government.

State ownership high on French communists' list

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 6

The French Communist Party published its own version of the common programme of the left today.

The outstanding point is the timetable of action with priority given to nationalization. As the Communists see it, this would begin in the first week a government of the left was in office.

M Georges Marchais, the party leader, had no doubt at today's press conference that the Communists would be very much involved in such a government.

He said that before the 1974 presidential election it had been agreed with M Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, that six or seven Communist ministers would be included in a Cabinet of 21.

Germans start hunger strike in Dutch jails

From Our Correspondent
Amsterdam, Feb 6

Three alleged members of the West German so-called "Red Army Group", a terrorist organization, held in Dutch jails, have gone on a hunger strike, they announced today through their lawyers.

Knut Folkerts, aged 26, was sentenced to 20 years in jail on December 20 for the murder of a policeman. Christoph Wackernagel, aged 26, and Gert Schneider, aged 28, were arrested in Amsterdam on November 10 after a shooting in which they were wounded.

All three are wanted in West Germany on charges of belonging to the terrorist group.

They say that they will continue their hunger strike which they began on Wednesday, until they are allowed to leave the Netherlands for a destination of their choice.

Terrorism on agenda of Schmidt Paris talks

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 6

There have been times in the 15 years of their existence when the biannual Franco-German "summits" inaugurated by General de Gaulle and Dr Adenauer in 1953 showed signs of developing into a rather meaningless ritual.

They nearly came to an abrupt demise soon after the signature of the Franco-German treaty which set them up. But even more significant than what they achieve is the fact that they take place; and that both countries have agreed that it should remain that way. The fact that Herr Helmut Schmidt, the German Chancellor, has now come to Paris with a retinue of no less than 40 persons, ministers and officials, is proof of the importance he attaches to this perennial exercise in Franco-German friendship.

Three broad groups of problems will be taken up by the two delegations in the course of the summit, three hours of them in private between Herr Schmidt and President Giscard d'Estaing. They are the world economic and commercial situation; foreign policy; and bilateral problems.

But two questions are liable to dominate the informal agenda—the monetary situation and the pressure on the franc; and creation of a "European judicial area" to combat international terrorism, after a suggestion put forward by the French President at the last European summit in December.

This is something on which France and Germany, now equally threatened by terrorist activity, have kindred feelings. The French view is that there are far too many loopholes in the coordination of the activities not of the police, but of the judiciary, with the result that wanted criminals can go scot-free simply by stepping across a European frontier.

In the bilateral field the main item for discussion is the development of a successor to the Airbus A300, for which there are two or three candidates—the B10 210-seater version; the A200 with the new 10-ton Franco-American jet engine; and the British X11. The Germans would like to bring the British into the project, but the French consider their terms exorbitant and favour going ahead with the A200.

Warning that cold may kill 45,000 old people

Help the Aged is calling for a six-point plan to help to prevent the deaths of at least 45,000 old people at risk from the cold this winter. In a pamphlet, *Death in Winter*, published today, it suggests:

A detailed national survey of the old at risk.

Rapid expansion of home insulation projects run by local authorities and financed by the Government.

Free installation and use of storage heaters in the worst affected pensioners' homes.

Rapid increase in the programme of building sheltered housing for the elderly.

The use of central boilers to heat a whole area of houses instead of each house having its own boiler. A minister for the aged to champion their cause at the highest level.

Help the Aged says that more than two million old people live in temperatures that would bring instant prosecution if they occurred in factories or offices.

At a cautious estimate 700,000 pensioners risk hypothermia every winter, the pamphlet says. "Cold may kill 45,000 old people this winter, and that is if the weather is mild. The average is 50,000."

Race chief rejects Sikh attack

By a Staff Reporter

Mr David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, yesterday rejected criticisms of the commission by Mr Preetam Singh, QC, who has resigned as a commissioner.

Mr Singh, a leading member of the Sikh community, sat on the important complaints committee in the six months he was at the commission. He told me that he had resigned because he thought the commission was moving too slowly and was not doing the job for which it was created.

Mr Singh wrote his letter of resignation on Thursday, but Mr Lane did not find out that he was resigning until Sunday night. In a statement yesterday, Mr Lane said: "I do not accept that Dr Preetam Singh's reported criticisms are justified. I hope that after further discussion and consideration he will decide to continue as a member of the CRE."

Mr Lane is expected to meet Mr Singh this week to try to persuade him to stay. But Mr Singh said on Sunday that his resignation was irrevocable.

He also said that he would consider making public his exact reasons for resignation depending on the reply Mr Rees, Home Secretary, makes to some of the points he made in his letter of resignation.

Maritime nations disagree on oil pollution control

Negotiations to tighten standards controlling oil pollutionand the safety of oil tankers began yesterday at the opening in London of a two-week conference of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization. The meeting started with the United States and some European countries requesting tougher pollution controls than those supported by Britain and other shipping nations to protect coastal waters.

After oil spill damage caused by accidents to tankers within North American waters the the United States Government is proposing that new tankers of 20,000 tons deadweight and above should have double bottoms. New and existing tankers of 20,000 tons dwt should also have segregated ballast tanks and inert gas systems. Certification and inspection procedures should be tightened. If ships of 10,000 gross tonnage should have backup radar, nd tankers would have specia collision-avoidance equipment.

Proposalfor big construction changes in isting ships are the cause of he main dispute between pporters of the American lans and those of Britain and her countries with fleets opering under flags of convenience.

The arguent over segregated ballast tans, for example, includes an lternative for washing the residue from oil cargo tanks with machine instead of by flushin with water into segregated nks. The American objective i to try to avoid severe spille through the use of double-bcom designs and to avoid the fild-up of chronic pollution fro the discharge of tank washin.

Gaullists rely on appeal against collectivism

Chirac gamble to regain power

From Ian Murray
Paris, Feb 6

The French Elections

The Gaullists, the largest party in the Government coalition—the "majority of the majority"—do not like to think of themselves as members of a party at all. They are the Rassemblement (gathering of French men and women) for the Republic. M Jacques Chirac, their leader, says that any Frenchman who lives and works for France is, by definition, a member of this *rassemblement*.

This somewhat idealistic outlook has not prevented the Rassemblement from having one of the best party organizations of all. Formed in December, 1976, by M Chirac at a 60,000-strong meeting which wound up the old Gaullist Union des Démocrates pour la République, it has inherited its party machine which gave the Gaullists 174 seats, the largest number in the National Assembly. It counts no less than five former prime ministers in its ranks.

As the direct descendant of the Rassemblement du Peuple Français formed by General de Gaulle in 1947, the party has sought to appeal to all classes but the growth of the partisan leftist vote has forced it—or at least its party leader—to take sides. Nobody is louder in warning about "the danger of the left" than M Chirac and the party has found itself pushed in the voters' minds to the right of the political spectrum.

Under M Chirac the party has adopted an energetic approach to the campaign, seeking to base its appeal on a proudly independent France, peopled by proudly independent Frenchmen. It is against the collectivism it holds as inherent in a communist or socialist system that the Rassemblement is making its stand and is basing its appeal.

It is ironic that M Chirac, who led the Gaullist revolt against M Jacques Chaban-Delmas, their prospective candidate in the 1974 presidential elections on the ground that he was not strong enough to beat M François Mitterrand, the left's candidate, should now find himself at daggers drawn with President Giscard d'Estaing, whom he then chose to support. This has happened because M Chirac is afraid that the President wants to move towards a government coalition involving the Socialists. It is basically to prevent this that he has decided to fight against the other candidates of the coalition in the hope of winning sufficient electoral support to force his view that such an alliance is against the wishes of the people.

Since losing the presidency in 1974 and the premiership in 1976, when M Chirac resigned the post, the Gaullists have been in the somewhat invidious position of being the strongest party in the governing coalition without the real power that should go with numerical superiority. M Chirac's gamble is that the electorate will decide that without a Gaullist in power the country is in unsafe hands.

At the same time he is running the risk of total eclipse. With some of the traditional working class voters in the party deserting to the Socialists and some middle class voters finding his policies too extreme, he could find himself even further in the political wilderness after the election if his gamble fails.

The party could rely on at least one voter in four in 1973. After losing the presidential election in 1974 support dropped to 14 per cent. Polls at the moment show that it can expect at least a 20 per cent support in the coming election. It still has the largest appeal to the working class vote of all the coalition parties.

Only if M Chirac's gamble succeeds can the Government expect to keep power. In that event he can be sure to insist on a greater say in the running of the country. Unlike M Barre, the Prime Minister, he wants to stimulate the economy. Should the gamble fail M Chirac sees his role as the guardian of responsible French interests until such time as the country should call on him to save it from its own mistakes.

Portugal's refugee policy pays off

From William Chislett
Lisbon, Feb 6

Since the April, 1974, military coup Portugal's population of nearly nine million has increased by 7 per cent as a result of the arrival of *retornados* (returned people) who fled Angola, Mozambique, Sao Tome, Cape Verde and Timor when Portugal divested itself of its former colonies.

Portugal could not wash its hands of these people and their problems and it is continuing to tackle them in an almost military fashion.

In fact, of all the many potentially catastrophic problems facing Portugal's second constitutional government at the moment the one which shows positive signs of being solved is the absorption of some 600,000 refugees into the community.

"We tell the *retornados*", Lieutenant-Colonel Gonçalves Ribeiro, the High commissioner responsible for the refugees, said to *The Times*, "'You have lost everything. If you want a future you must build it yourselves and we will give you the means to do so'."

The policy is paying off, the colonel said, and demonstrated it with dozens of charts and maps displayed in his office. Now the number of Government-supported *retornados* was being radically reduced.

Until the end of last September, the Government paid all their hotel bills, temporarily solving the housing problem for those without relatives in Portugal and also keeping hotel managers happy because rooms would otherwise have been empty with the enormous slump in the country's tourist industry after the coup.

But the government realized it was on the wrong track and last year started to offer incentives. In 1977, a total of 4,868 approved projects were financed and these have created 32,933 jobs for the *retornados*, mainly in light industry and agriculture. Portugal has about 400,000 unemployed out of a work force of 3,250,000.

Easy credits are offered and once a project is approved the *retornados* can borrow 60 per cent of the money from the Government at 3 per cent interest and the other 40 per cent from banks at the normal 12 per cent. This provides the vitally needed incentive, and it also means that the ordinary Portuguese does not feel so resentful that the *retornados* are, to some extent, privileged.

Credit is also provided to build homes. Last year 5,822 were built and this year another 6,000. Unemployment benefit is also provided for about 30,000—a drop of 80,000 compared to 1976.

While some are moving out of the camps, others have stayed in those like the Quinta da Graca, a former farm near Estoril, the fashionable resort outside Lisbon. More than 2,000 *retornados* are still there in yellow prefabricated houses and khaki-coloured military tents, run by the Red Cross.

They get three good meals a day, fish alternating with meat, and all medical and school bills are paid.

There is concern that the children, who do not even speak Portuguese very well, will not integrate into society.

However, the *retornados* as a whole have earned a high reputation for their hard work. Indeed, some Portuguese will admit that "the salvation of Portugal is in the *retornados*."

There is an element of truth in this jibe as the case of a Pakistani-Mozambique grocer in Lisbon demonstrated. He opened a shop in an area full of shops and against all advice, and has made a go of it by keeping open when everyone else is closed. He recently took his first holiday for 18 months.

Housebuilding figures for 1977 'abysmal'

Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, yesterday described Britain's housebuilding performance in 1977 as "a disaster for those in need of homes and for those who build them".

Commenting on figures released by the Department of the Environment, Mr Neil McIntosh, director of Shelter, said: "The number of new homes started last year was *the second lowest since 1951*. Taking housebuilding and improvement together, these are the most dismal figures for 15 years.

"With over 200,000 building workers unemployed it is surely not beyond the wit of man to improve on this abysmal performance."

Work was started on 132,300 homes in the public sector, 38,000 fewer than in 1976, and 133,900 private ones, a fall of 20,800.

Oil slick threat to sea birds' breeding place

Oil that was feared to have contaminated up to a thousand sea birds in the Firth of Forth was reported last night to be drifting towards the Isle of May, a breeding place for razorbills and guillemots. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said in Edinburgh that large numbers of the birds contaminated by oil had been found on the Fife shore a few miles from the island.

"The oil that caused the damage could be from the same slick which affected about a thousand sea birds, of which 200 had died", the society said.

The Forth Ports Authority said there was no immediate danger of serious pollution to beaches.

Action on 'cheap labour' at sea

The Aberdeen branch of the National Union of Seamen is to demand action to prevent ships sailing under flags of convenience from operating in the British sector of the North Sea unless appropriate rates are paid.

The branch also wants to stop the use of "cheap foreign labour" on British sector rigs, barges and platforms in the North Sea.

Eight hurt in crash

Eight people were hurt yesterday when a passenger train and a goods train were in collision in Hertford North station. A carriage fell about 20ft down an embankment.

£25,000 lost by thief at casino

The financial controller of a Birmingham hotel who was said to have lost £25,000 in one night at a Monte Carlo casino, after vanishing with more than £44,000 of the hotel's takings, was jailed at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday for four years.

Tarlock Singh Gahir, aged 23, of no fixed address, stole the money from cash he should have banked for the Strathallan Hotel, Mr Malcolm Porter, for the prosecution, said. Mr Gahir admitted stealing the money.

'Use sat belts' campagn

A nationpublicity campaign to persuademore drivers and front-seat passengers to wear seat belts is announced yesterday by Mr Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport. It will cost £75,000.

Mr Rodgs said: "All the available evidnce clearly shows that seat bls play a major part in saving lives and serious injuries. At the moment belts save 400 lies a year. If all belts fitted o cars were worn a thousand more lives would be saved."

Paisley move for 'loyalist' pact fals

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

An attempt by the Rev Ian Paisley, Democratic Unionist Party MP for Antrim, North, *to forge a new pact among the* main "loyalist" parties in Northern Ireland in preparation for the next general election has been dashed.

Because of the strong sectarian voting patterns in the province, the new arrangement might have significantly altered the character of Ulster's representation at Westminster and increased to three the number of MPs representing Mr Paisley's hard-line party.

Details of the suggested pact were contained in private letters sent recently to Mr Harry West, leader of the Official Unionists, and Mr Ernest Baird, founder of the United Ulster Unionist Party. It is understood that Mr Paisley offered to prevent his party from contesting six of Ulster's 12 seats if the other two leaders agreed to allow Democratic Unionist Party candidates a clear run in Armagh and East Belfast.

Although presented as a move to prevent any split in the loyalist vote working to the advantage of parties in favour of power-sharing, the immediate result of an agreement to Mr Paisley's suggestion would have been to oust two sitting MPs, Mr James McCusker, of the Ulster Unionists, and Mr William Craig. Mr Craig is winding up his Vanguard Party before returning to the Official Unionist fold.

The disclosure of Mr Paisley's plans to revive the unity of the defunct loyalist coalition has served to show up the deep disagreements among different shades of unionists. Mr West dismissed the terms of the plan unacceptable and said his central party had no influence over selection procedures carried out by individual unionist associations.

It was noted in Belfast political circles that, of the six seats Mr Paisley offered not to contest, only Down, South, the constituency of Mr Enoch Powell posed any real danger to the sitting Official Unionist member. Last night Mr Cecil Harvey, a local businessman from Banbridge, reaffirmed that he inends to contest the seat on behlf of the United Ulster Unionst Party.

Commentig on Mr Paisley's offer, Mr raig said it was evident tha the Democratic Unionist Pay was feeling a growing sene of irrelevance because of te astonishing drop in Mr Paisle's standing among the Unioni population. Mr McCusker ade clear in an angry statemt that he will not be standingdown.

'Vote-ban' suggestion: The chances of a future British Conservativegovernment taking the vote awa from Irish people living in th country were described as possibility yesterday by Mr FitzGerald, leader of the IrishRepublic's opposition. Fine Gal party (the Press Association eports).

Commentig on reports that such a mov was being looked at: he said: It does not seem inconsistent with some of the attitudes o parts of the British Tor party". He said the view of those behind the idea might e "that the great majority of te Irish in Britain vote Labour".

Councils ask Government to relax central controls

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Representatives of all local authorities in England and Wales, achieving one of their rare moments of unanimity, called on the Government yesterday to give them greater freedom.

They asked, in a policy document, for fewer detailed central controls and a reduction in the number of reports and statistics demanded.

The demand for an overall review, presented by the Association of County Councils, the Association of District Councils and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities to the Joint Consultative Council on Local Government Finance, was not accepted by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment. He said that since 1972 about 260 central controls had been lifted, but he agreed to consider specific cases.

The associations said that the governments should be as close to the people as possible and that local variations in standards of service must be accepted as part of the price. "The immediate aim must be to seek ways of reversing the drift to centralism and to find ways of strengthening local autonomy", they said.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

EST EUROPE

ueen Sophia's views communism deleted

Harry Debelius
d, Feb 6
ish news media have completely suppressed ally explosive statements g communism made by Sophia in Austria, it irnt here today.

ng the visit of the h monarchs to Austria ek. Queen Sophia expres- sdain for communism in erview written for the daily *Die Presse*, by a Kubelka, and implied mmunism and democracy ntagonistic.

s the first public expres- y any member of the royal family of such a pinion on any particular l option since the death ico. King Juan Carlos, by t, has avoided overt poli- atements.

n Sophia was quoted in esse as saying: "Commu- io longer has any real It has gone out of style. is not a single country as been able to put into practice the theories which sound so wonderful.

"The differences between classes are more pronounced in communist countries than they are in democracies. What is the point then? Most people just want to work in dignity and accomplish something, and that is only possible in a democracy."

The editors of several Spanish newspapers deleted the monarch's political remarks from reports filed from Vienna by their correspondents.

Other newspapers published condensed versions of her political opinions, tucked away in inside pages. Spanish radio and television news broadcasts completely ignored the comments.

A spokesman for the Zarzuela Palace denied that palace officials had pressed editors to play down the story. The director of one Madrid daily newspaper confirmed this. He told me that he had decided not to give prominence to the remarks because "Spain has no replacement for Juan Carlos".

ugs worth £1m seized in nch seaside villa

Ciotat, Feb 6.—French American police have heroin and morphine ore than £1m in a secret ory at this Mediterranean ear Marseilles. The raid nemories of the s "French connexion". en were arrested and 35 morphine seized when police and two American ent agents burst into a here yesterday and ed a clandestine labora- making heroin.

French connexion", by eroin made in laborator- southern France was d for sale in the United vas thought to have been l in 1973. But one of the rrested yesterday had connexion" links and ed three years for drug ng.

squad officials suspected that almost all the vailable in France came e Far East and was in Amsterdam. But aid today the morphine ed in yesterday's raid came from either Turkey or Lebanon. They feared this might signal the start of a new international drug chain.

First police estimates of the value of the haul were in the region of £4m but they later said it was poor quality morphine and probably worth only about £1m.

The laboratory contained equipment to turn morphine, a derivative of poppies, into raw heroin. Dealers mix this with other substances to obtain the highest prices in street sales.

Police said they believed the morphine arrived at the laboratory last week. They had been keeping the villa under surveillance for some time.

The French Interior Ministry said in a press statement: "Police have always said the networks of the 'French connexion' were in hibernation and not totally destroyed.

"Police have never stopped their surveillance of traffickers, who escaped the attacks launched in 1972-73 against the networks of the French connexion."—Reuter and UPI.

s Redgrave ses EEC eate jobs

ur Correspondent
, Feb 6
sa Redgrave, the actress, d a delegation of young without jobs at a meet- Mr Henk Vredeling, pean Commissioner for ffairs.

200 unemployed young om Belgium, Holland, West Germany, Britain, reece and Spain had ated earlier outside the ters of the European ion.

emonstration was the on of a European hich began on January separate groups of set out from Amster- le, Metz and Genoa. deling was told of the big investments to ew jobs for school and graduates

Czech hijacker seeks asylum in W Germany

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, Feb 6

A young Czechoslovak engineer today hijacked a Czechoslovak Tupolev 134 airliner with 46 people on board from East Berlin to Frankfurt and asked for political asylum.

It was the second hijacking of the Czechoslovak aircraft to Frankfurt within four months. An engaged couple from Czechoslovakia who forced a pilot at pistol point to fly them to West Germany in October are still in jail in Frankfurt awaiting trial.

They and today's hijacker, Ladislav Molnar, aged 24, face a minimum of five years' imprisonment in West Germany.

The airliner took off from Frankfurt with the other passengers tonight for Prague, its original destination.

team on human rights as being on trial

an McGregor
eb 6
ited States regards the United Nations Com- n Human Rights as rial, Mr Edward Mez- lief of the American , said today.

al to see whether it ict deal with human whether we are going double standard or will deal with them edly", he told a press . He said his gov- would also be giving t to the proposal for g the post of United gh Commissioner for ghts.

mmission opened a session here today. It disclosed that the appeals reaching the tions human rights s now approaching ear.

e sifted by a team st decides whether e letters or telegrams ndicate "a consistent gross violations of its".

do, the governments will be informed— identity of the com- ecret—and the affair ally be considered by ssion.

complaints assessed through a similar and, once all avail- stic remedies have been exhausted—or are seen to be "unreasonably" prolonged—are put before the 18-member human rights committee established last year under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

During a three-week session which ended at the weekend, the committee considered complaints in closed session. It also accepts additional observation from complainants to whom it has communicated a government's explanations concerning the original complaint.

However hesitant, these procedures are becoming known in many countries and are slowly acquiring status in the eyes of government. The covenant, which came into force only two years ago, has so far been ratified by 46 states.

The question of human rights violations in Uganda is expected to be raised in the Commission. The Nordic countries have a resolution on Uganda before the General Assembly, but have agreed to hold the matter over for the Commission.

Some lively exchanges seem to be in prospect between Mr Mezvinsky and the Soviet delegate, Mr Valerian Zorin, a veteran of many United Nations human rights meetings. At the same time, Mr Mezvinsky said they would soft-pedal on matters being dealt with at Belgrade, pending the outcome of the conference there.


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Arthur Murray

OVERSEAS

Mr Nkomo declares Patriotic Front will accept UN force

From Our Correspondent
Lusaka, Feb 6

Mr Joshua Nkomo, co-leader of the Patriotic Front Rhodesian nationalist alliance, said today his organization was prepared to accept outside supervision of pre-independence elections in Rhodesia if it were given the "supervisory role" in the transition to majority rule.

A governing council consisting of "those forces that fought for independence" should be set up to run the government during the interim. Mr Nkomo was speaking at a news conference on his return from talks in Malta with Dr Owen, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Young, the American representative at the United Nations. The talks centred on new proposals for implementing the Anglo-American settlement plan.

Mr Nkomo said details of the elections for the first independent Zimbabwe government could be left in the hands of independent groups.

Asked if the Patriotic Front, which controls the guerrilla armies, would agree to the presence of a United Nations peacekeeping force, he said it would accept "some form" of United Nations participation, subject to negotiation.

Mr Nkomo, who together with Mr Robert Mugabe heads the alliance, said internally-based nationalists could serve on the governing council only "if they are taking part in the war".

All Zimbabweans, however, would be free to contest the elections.

Mr Nkomo charged that there were about 11,200 foreign mercenaries, including 2,000 from Britain, fighting for the Rhodesian Army. The information came from a Western source, he said.

Frederick Cleary writes from Salisbury: Mr Josiah Chinamano, Salisbury representative of the Patriotic Front, said on his return from Malta that new talks are expected soon between the British and American Governments and Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe.

The Malta conference had produced British acceptance in principle of a governing council to oversee transition, and Patriotic Front acceptance of some United Nations involvement.

Vorster talks: Mr David Smith, the Rhodesian Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, met Mr Vorster the South African Prime Minister, for 50 minutes today. He also had talks with Senator Horwood, Minister of Finance, Nicholas Ashford writes from Johannesburg. Mr Smith said afterwards he had brought Mr Vorster up to date on the internal settlement talks in Salisbury.

He was still optimistic that the internal talks would result in a settlement, but he thought it would take some time.

Mr Smith was at the centre of the dispute just over a week ago which led to a walk-out by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council.

It is thought likely that Mr Smith discussed the question of further South African financial assistance to Rhodesia during his meeting with Senator Horwood.

War toll: A Salsbury military communiqué said another 26 people, including five members of the elite Selous Scouts unit, had been killed in the war.

The Selous Scouts, three blacks and two whites, had died in a guerrilla ambush in Southern Rhodesia last night, the communiqué said, while a black security force member had been killed in another incident. Troops had killed 20 guerrillas.—UPI.



Runway riots: Clashes between 800 Japanese riot police and demonstrators continued into the night as police tried yesterday to dislodge protesters from a concrete and steel tower obstructing the end of a planned runway at Tokyo's new international airport, due to open on March 30. Attacking under floodlights, police used tear gas and water cannon against the opponents of the airport, who threw petrol bombs and stones. Police said 22 policemen were injured, two seriously, in the latest clashes over the airport, which began at dawn.—Reuter.

Information on landing system 'was kept back'

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 6

The American aviation authorities had failed to provide the international community with all the relevant information it needed to select the best aircraft landing system for the world, the British Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said.

Representatives of the CAA were testifying before a congressional committee here into a long, and at times bitter, Anglo-American dispute over the choice of a new microwave landing system for member countries of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), a United Nations agency.

A group of international experts from the ICAO has come out overwhelmingly in favour of an American-developed system known as Time Reference Scanning Beam (TRSB) in preference to its British rival, the *Doppler* system.

Opening today's hearing before the Government activities and transportation sub-committee of the House of Representatives, Mr Michael Whitney, a deputy director of the CAA, said in a statement that he and his colleagues were appearing at the hearing "because, on the evidence available, we believe that TRSB is not the best choice, or even a satisfactory choice, for a new international landing system".

Moreover, the CAA believed that the American Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had "in a number of respects so far failed to provide the ICAO with the means of taking all facts properly into account in choosing the best system for the world".

There was no question, Mr Whitney said, that Britain would adopt whatever standard the ICAO selected, provided there was proper evidence that that system met the ICAO standards for performance and above all, safely. "Our sole concern is that the world should have the best and the safest system".

Mr Whitney rejected American claims that British interests, particularly the Plessey Corporation, were promoting the Doppler system for commercial reasons. "Plessey were not the inventors of the Doppler system and they hold no patents for that system", he said.

Indeed, Plessey's work on the Doppler system, on behalf of the British Ministry of Defence, was a scientific task. "The scientists employed on it have a commitment to scientific excellence rather than to marketing a product."

Mr Sadat sees Palestinian state linked to Jordan

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Feb 6

President Sadat said today that he wanted no further concessions from the Israelis, because the occupied Arab land which they must return was not theirs to concede. He said that peace could be achieved within a week if Israel agreed that no one should tread on other people's sovereignty.

In a speech to the National Press Club, he said that Israel must withdraw from all territory occupied in 1967, and must allow the Palestinians the right of self determination. A Palestinian state linked to Jordan would be no threat to peace, he declared.

The President reaffirmed that he was determined to follow the road to peace. "It is true that I am rather disappointed", he said, "but I am determined to persevere. I shall pursue my mission for the sake of Arabs and Israelis."

"He went on: "I am willing to give the experiment every possible chance, until I reach the conclusion that enough time has elapsed without achieving any kind of progress." Mr Sadat did not elaborate on this veiled threat, if threat it was.

Despite his professions of optimism, he had no good news for his audience. The military talks between Israel and Egypt in Cairo will continue, but the fate of the political talks in Jerusalem remains undecided. Mr Alfred Atherton, the Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East, will return to the area to continue his low-level shuttle diplomacy.

This is a meagre achievement. It is not at all obvious that an assistant secretary can succeed where the Secretary of State and tehe President have failed.

Questions in Pretoria on detainees

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, Feb 6

Pressure on the Government is building up about the continued detention of a large number of people without trial. Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Justice, has been urged by several delegations in the past few days either to release them or lay charges.

Today Mr Kruger received a four-man deputation of the country's leading lawyers, representing the general council of the Bar of South Africa. A visiting delegation from the West German Social Democratic Party also raised the question of detainees with him.

According to the South African Institute of Race Relations, 714 people were being held in detention without trial last November.

It is clear that the whole question of detention without trial is causing concern within the ruling National Party.

Salyut spacemen send 'dustbin' to fiery end

Moscow, Feb 6.—Two Soviet cosmonauts today separated the Progress 1 cargo craft from their orbiting Salyut 6 station and sent it off, packed with rubbish like a cosmic dustbin, to burn up in the Earth's atmosphere.

Parts of the seven-ton craft may hit the Earth, but Soviet scientists—apparently attempting to allay fears of a repeat of last month's accident in which fragments of a nuclear-powered satellite landed in northern Canada—emphasized that Progress 1 would land in a remote area of the Pacific.

Today's undocking cleared the way for a possible new manned mission to Salyut, which has been crewed for more than eight weeks by Lieutenant-Colonel Yuri Romanenko and Mr Georgy Grechko.

Tass news agency hailed as a success the refuelling and restocking mission of Progress 1.

Soviet commentators have said that the cargo craft, which supplied the orbiting cosmonauts with everything from air, food and water to clean clothes and letters from home, significantly increases the scope of manned space missions.

Before today's separation the Salyut crew filled the Progress craft with containers of used water and food, filters from the station's oxygen regeneration system and scientific equipment which was no longer needed.

Tass said Progress would "cease to exist" when it entered the atmosphere. But Mr Igor Bazhinov, a senior space programme official, indicated on Soviet television last night that some fragments might be expected to reach the ground.

Mr Yuri Kornilov, a Tass commentator, today hit out at some sections of the Western press for "working up fears and fanning anti-Sovietism" by exaggerating the dangers from the accidental reentry of Cosmos 954 in Canada.—Reuter.

Dressing-down for Emperor

Tokyo. — The Emperor's clothes have become a political issue in Japan.

A group of members of the Diet is pressing for Emperor Hirohito to wear the traditional kimono instead of Western dress in public.—AP.

US airline plans Concorde flights to Panama

New York, Feb 6.—Braniff International Airlines has started talks with British Airways to lease a Concorde for a New York to Panama run, a Braniff spokesman said today.

Mr Jere Cox, Braniff vice-president for public relations, said negotiations on a lease agreement were expected to begin in late spring or early summer.

Initially, the supersonic flights would be once or twice weekly, increasing later, Mr Cox said. Braniff has four New York-Panama flights a week.

He said that using Concorde would cut flying time from five to two and a half hours. The company hopes to start Concorde services by the end of this year. Fares would be 20 per cent higher than the present first class rate of $358 (£179).

Braniff signed interchange agreements last February with British Airways and Air France for a Concorde service between Dallas-Fort Worth airport and Dulles airport, Washington, linking with London and Paris flights.—Reuter.

Costa Rica election

San José, Feb 6.—Señor Rodrigo Carazo Odio, the Opposition candidate, appeared to have won yesterday's presidential election in Costa Rica, ousting Señor Daniel Oduber.

Israel admits supplying arms to Ethiopia

From Michael Knipe
Jerusalem, Feb 6

Israel is selling arms to Ethiopia to help the military Government in Addis Ababa in itswar with Somalia, Mr Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister disclosed today.

He pointed out that Israel was particularly interested in maintaining good relations with the countries bordering its Red Sea shipping route.

"For years we've cooperated with Ethiopia, never with Somalia", he said. "So when they were interested (in Israeli arms) and were being attacked they asked us for help and we granted it to them." Mr Dayan, interviewed in Switzerland by an Israeli reporter, did not specify when this was, what arms were involved, and in what quantities, but said they did not include "warplanes or soldiers".

Retreat claim: Ethiopia said today that its troops had crushed Somali forces in the Ogaden Desert and that most of the Somalis were fleeing back to their country.

"The rest are surrendering", Addis Ababa radio said in a broadcast monitored in London by Reuter.

Reporting statements made at a Government press conference today, the radio said that Somali forces in the Ogaden "are tormented by hunger and thirst after being crushed by our revolutionary forces".

Mudawein, Ethiopia, Feb 6.—Somali guerrillas have retreated from several positions round the strategic city of Harer after heavy strikes by Ethiopian aircraft and artillery, Jama Ali, a commander of the Western Somalia Liberation Front, said.

He told Western reporters: "We have made tactical withdrawals here and there." These had been "forced by enormous military bombardments directed by Soviet and Cuban military personnel."

Since last week, Ethiopian jets had been strafing and bombing the Front's forces fighting to hold the dry hillsides between Harer and the Gara Marda pass, the most crucial stretch of territory in the Ogaden war.

The commander appealed for Western military aid. "Why is the West watching?" Jama Ali asked. "Is it a total approval of the Soviets to do what they like in this part of the world or because the West is no match for the Eastern block?"

Diplomatic sources in Mogadishu said that Western envoys had been called in to the Foreign Ministry on Saturday for the second time in three days and told of Somalia's growing fear of invasion from the North.—Reuter.

Lawyer denies he was 'Deep Throat'

New York, Feb 6.—Mr Fred Fielding, a lawyer who worked for the Nixon Administration, has denied that he was the Watergate source "Deep Throat", despite a report that Mr H. R. Haldeman, the former White House chief of staff, has named him in a new book on the affair.

The lawyer, who worked with Mr John Dean, the former White House counsel, said last night: "I have not had the opportunity to read Mr Haldeman's book. But I can state that at least any part of his novel that names me as 'Deep Throat' is sheer fantasy and nonsense. I emphatically deny the story and the accusation."—AP.

Chad breaks link with Libya

Mdjamena, Feb 6.—Chad suspended diplomatic relations with Libya today. A statement accused Libya of giving increased support to Chad rebels and of occupying a stretch of land in northern Chad.

But, direct negotiations between Chad and Libya over their border dispute would take place in Niamey, in Niger, tomorrow, as planned.

TV forecasts add to trials of blizzard in New York

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 6

New Yorkers woke up this morning to find it snowing hard, and the snow has become thicker and more blustery since. Far from being startled by this further worsening of the rough winter weather, most people in the city would have felt keenly deprived if it had been fine, because forecasters had spent the weekend working us up into a lather of anticipation.

Ever since they spotted the storm hovering south-west of us a few days ago, forecasters have been steadily increasing their estimates of the amount of snow we can expect. Starting from between three and six inches, it rose to 10, 12, 15, 18 and now they think it might go up to 20.

"We are sitting on a real powder-keg", chortled one forecaster on a late-night news programme last night. Throughout the evening, television stations flashed latest news of the advancing horror on the screens in the middle of their regular programmes.

Fewer people than usual tried to get to work today, and those that did make it, started fussing immediately about how they would get back.

By early afternoon, among the few people on the streets were television crews getting their pictures of people skiing up Fifth Avenue.

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Chinese writer describes 10-year persecution

From Georges Blanoic
Shanghai, Feb 6

Pa Chin, the Chinese writer who was once nominated for the Nobel Prize for Literature, has described how he was punished for several years during the Cultural Revolution by being made to clean toilets, unblock drains, sweep floors and serve at tables.

Mr Pa, who is 74, was giving the first interview by a Chinese writer for 12 years. He blamed the "gang of four" and the mistakes of the Cultural Revolution for his disgrace that lasted from 1966 to 1976. He was rehabilitated last year and reinstated in his home and library.

He said he was writing a book "describing the life of writers who, like myself, suffered for 10 years". He added: "I want to accuse, express my indignation and tell about the life of a writer during the difficult years."

The author of several hundred works, he was at the peak of his popularity when the Cultural Revolution picked him as a target in 1966. He had recently returned to Shanghai from a conference of Asian and African writers in Peking, had paid a call on Mao Tse-tung at his home, and taken part in the Cultural Revolution, when the "Gang of Four" stepped in and "pushed me aside".

He stayed "pushed aside" for several years and his name only reappeared in the official press in May 1977, six months after the "gang of four" fell.

From October 1966 until early 1970 he was obliged to visit the Writers Association offices in Shanghai every day, not for literary purposes, but to attend to menial cleaning and serving tasks. Outside, wall posters accused him of being a traitor to China.

Mr Pa said he was never physically ill-treated. He never was made to kneel on broken glass, as he read in the preface to one of his books published in the United States, he was never imprisoned and he was never made to wear a donkey's cap, which counter-revolutionaries were often forced to put on.

But, he said, he was "the target at reeducation meetings attended by the masses, and even on television. I had no political rights, nor the right to write".

At these meetings, from 1970 to 1972 where he was harshly criticized, he had to rise when questioned. "I was frequently insulted but I kept calm. Many of the accusations against me were contrary to facts. Sometimes I refused to accept the criticisms. I was then accused of being dishonest. But if it was true, I accepted it", he said.

None of the "Gang of Four" was ever present at these meetings. But he said, two members of the gang, Mr Chang Chun-chiao and Mr Yao Wen-yan whom he knew, insulted him on other occasions.

His children also particularly suffered from the attacks against him. "They suffered from discrimination in the distribution of jobs. They were made to do hard tasks. Because of my errors, my son spent seven years working in the country from 1969. He was able to return in August 1976 to work in a factory."

Mr Pa said he was rescued from the reeducation school in 1972 thanks to the intervention of Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai, the former Prime Minister, who were concerned over its methods. He was afterwards transferred to the Shanghai writers' translation bureau where, forbidden to write himself, he translated into Chinese various Russian books.

His final rehabilitation came in May last year when the Shanghai newspaper *Wen Hui Pao* published a letter in which he attacked the "Gang of Four".

Their "cultural dictatorship" had been a calamity, he said. Its first consequence was the lack of books. Libraries no longer lent them and printers no longer printed them.—Agence France-Presse.

OVERSEAS

Phnom Penh sees little need for peace with Vietnam now that Thai links are improved

From Our Correspondent
Bangkok, Feb 6

Cambodia may be prepared to withstand a long siege of its eastern and northern borders rather than negotiate with Vietnam, according to Western diplomats in Bangkok and Thai officials.

The move towards normalization of relations with Thailand, they say, strengthened Cambodian resolve to reject Vietnam's latest call for negotiations to be preceded by withdrawal by both sides three miles inside their borders.

The diplomats believe that friendly relations with Thailand will make Cambodia less vulnerable to a hostile Vietnam. Trade with Thailand expected to resume soon will remove much of Cambodia's dependence upon Vietnam, will provide it with some foreign currency and safeguard its maritime interests in the Gulf of Thailand.

On the military front, intelligence experts say that both sides retain forces inside the other's territory. The Vietnamese have pulled back in places but still have tens of thousands of troops in the Parrot's Beak area.

The Cambodians continue to shell the provincial capital of Tay Ninh with artillery from positions inside Vietnam. This shows that the Vietnamese have still not managed to seal the border against Cambodian harassment.

Bangkok, Feb 6.—Cambodia said today that its troops would continue to fight Vietnam. Without referring directly to the Vietnamese proposal, Phnom Penh radio said that Khmer troops "are determined to continue the struggle against the expansionist Vietnamese aggressors."

Hanoi released its statement calling for peace negotiations at about the time yesterday when Phnom Penh radio was reporting the largest Vietnamese attack in a month.

Vietnamese forces were beaten back across the border in six hours of heavy fighting which destroyed eight tanks and killed dozens of Vietnamese soldiers, the broadcast added. today, there were no fresh reports of fighting.—UPI.

Hongkong, Feb 6.—Referring to the latest Vietnamese call for negotiations, the official Vietnamese newspaper *Nhan Dan* said: "We hope they will earnestly consider the new proposals."

Vietnam put forward a three-point proposal yesterday for a ceasefire, peace talks and an agreement on, "an appropriate form of international guarantee and supervision."

Nhan Dan said in a leading article: "It is regrettable that the Kampuchean (Cambodian) authorities remain stubbornly opposed to negotiation while playing up the border issue, deliberately fanning national hatred against Vietnam and causing armed conflicts to break out repeatedly."—Reuter.

Prague, Feb 6.—The correspondent of Prague newspaper *Rude Pravo*, who visited the Vietnamese side of the border battleground, today described scenes of death and destruction.

He reported that Vietnamese forces had virtually wiped out five Cambodian battalions last month in a retaliatory strike after a Cambodian attack had killed civilians.—Reuter.

Border shootings on sight cut flow of refugees

Wave of barbarity hits Cambodia as 'traitors are weeded out'

From *Neil Kelly*
Bangkok, Feb 6

Repercussions of the border war with Vietnam and of famine caused by drought appear to have produced a new wave of barbarity inside Cambodia.

The communist regime is "weeding out traitors collaborating with the Vietnamese" and punishing the hungry stealing food, according to reports reaching foreign embassies in Phnom Penh and information supplied by Cambodian officials to Chinese and other communist journalists in Peking.

A number of international experts have refused to believe reports by refugees of wholesale slaughter since the communist takeover in 1975 but even they concede that Cambodia is today the most totalitarian and collectivized nation on earth.

Mr Pol Pot, the Prime Minister and party secretary, has said publicly: "Our entire people live under a collective regime through a communal support system."

In practice, also detailed publicly by Mr Pol Pot, that means that Cambodia no longer has money or wages. The population, he said, was fed from communal kitchens. Thus, a family no longer buy, cook and eat food together.

Other sources say that communications within Cambodia are by radio or messenger.

Scandinavian ambassadors said that only Phnom Penh's main streets were open with side streets and pavements blocked off by vegetable gardens. The city seems self-sufficient in food.

They found only one shop which sold goods for hard currency to the small number of foreign diplomats. The only countries with embassies in Phnom Penh are China, Laos, North Korea, Egypt, Yugoslavia and Albania.

Cambodian officials told the ambassadors that Phnom Penh would never again be a large city but would be replaced by an industrial city of a new type. The ambassadors noticed no malnutrition but refugees without exception have reported near-starvation rations.

Nevertheless ministers told that officials in Phnom Penh last week that this year they would export 200,000 tons of rice, a phenomenal quantity for a small nation with Cambodia's problems.

President Khieu Samphan in a speech claimed: "Our children do not need toys which were formerly imported at considerable cost. They are happy with driving sparrows away from the crops, tending cattle and buffalo, collecting natural fertilizer and helping to build dams and digging ditches."

Mr Pol Pot has confirmed accounts by refugees that traditional schooling has been abolished. He said schools were now located at farming cooperatives and factories. The only purpose of education, he said, was to eradicate illiteracy, otherwise the children's duty was to help their elders.

Only 20 Cambodian refugees have reached Thailand in the past three months, according to the United Nations. The border is now so perilous, with both Cambodian and Thai guards shooting on sight, that few who attempt the crossing complete the journey.

The few still arriving complain that the only possessions they were allowed were one set of clothes (black to hide the dirt) and a sleeping mat, and that there was nothing to read and no radios.

The regime has ruled, they say, that an ox produces three kilograms (just over 6½lb) of manure daily. It is weighed every three days, and the workers must explain any discrepancy.

Pakistan rejects Indian 'big brother' attitude

From Richard Wigg
Islamabad, Feb 6

General Zia ul-Haq, Pakistan's military ruler, today urged Mr A. B. Vajpayee, the Indian External Affairs Minister, to put relations on a new footing by eschewing the ways of a "big country" when dealing with neighbours.

"You cannot have a big brother and a small brother relationship. When our two countries meet they must meet on an equal basis" the General told reporters after his talks with Mr Vajpayee, who is the first Indian External Affairs Minister to visit Pakistan in 12 years. "There has to be give and take on both sides."

Mr Vajpayee arrived here this morning on a three-day goodwill visit intended to show the Janata Party Government's desire for improved relations with all nations in the sub-continent.

The visit has been made more delicate by Pakistani suspicions that, starting with President Carter's visit to Delhi, a concerted attempt is being made to build India up into a big power in the region.

General Zia did not close the door today on increased Indian-Pakistani economic cooperation provided its advantages were felt by both nations. "The first step is always economic cooperation and thereafter we can build on that", he told Mr Vajpayee.

General Zia today admitted that the next two years could only serve at best to put Pakistan's shattered economy back on the rails.

He raised with Mr Vajpayee Pakistan's ever-present fear of Indian hegemony, which India's economic advance during the past decade has compounded. He also raised the issue of Kashmir, which is still disputed 30 years after partition. Little movement emerged today on this, with both sides stating their well-known positions.

West sees Soviet war in snow

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 6

For the first time since the Second World War, British and American observers today attended large-scale military manoeuvres by Soviet land and air forces.

Code-named "Berezina", after a river dividing the battleground, the exercises which began this morning and involve 25,000 men are being held in the westerly Republic of Byelorussia, near the cities of Minsk, Orsha and Polotsk. They will continue until Friday.

It is the fourth time that foreign observers have been invited to watch such manoeuvres, in compliance with the Helsinki accords on security and cooperation in Europe. This year 10 of the signatories are represented—Belgium, East Germany, West Germany, Holland, Poland, France, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Britain and the United States.

Britain, America, Belgium and Holland are here for the first time.

Britain is being represented by Major-General Edward Burgess from the Ministry of Defence, and Brigadier David Wilson, military attaché at the British Embassy in Moscow. According to *Pravda* the deep snow is making the going difficult for the tanks and other tracked vehicles.

The Soviet forces, commanded by Colonel-General Mikhail Zaitsev from the Byelorussian military district, are fighting in woody frozen marshland covered with lakes, rivers and canals.

The forces have been divided into "Northerners" and "Southerners", and at the start of the exercise the Northerners had halted the offensive of the Southerner and were regrouping for surprise attacks.

Mrs Gandhi's son fails to attend inquiry

Delhi, Feb 6.—Mr Sanjay Gandhi, son of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the former Indian Prime Minister, and one of the most powerful figures during her 19-month emergency rule, failed to appear before a Government inquiry commission today.

Mr J. C. Shah, a former Chief Justice and head of the commission inquiring into the period of emergency rule, had asked Mr Gandhi to be present today to assist the commission in its investigations into unauthorized demolitions of houses and shops under the emergency laws.

Following his mother's example, Mr Gandhi ignored the commission's request that he appeal befort it.—Reuter.

10 sentenced to death for Congo plot

Kinshasa, Feb 6.—The Congolese revolutionary court today sentenced to death 10 men arrested after the assassination of President Marien Mgouabi of Congo last March, the Zaire news agency Azap reported quoting Brazzaville radio.

An eleventh man was sentenced to death in his absence. Some 20 dependents were acquitted and charges were given prison terms, 12 against two were dropped.

President Mgouabi was shot dead in his palace on March 18, 1977, by a group of three men. Mr Alphonse Massemba-Debat, the former President, was accused of having prepared the plot and was executed by firing squad within a week of the assassination.—Reuter.

New Sri Lanka Premier

Colombo, Feb 6.—Mr Ranasingle Premadasa, deputy leader of the ruling United National Party, was appointed Sri Lanka's Prime Minister today under the new French-style presidential rule adopted on Saturday.

Mr Junius Jayewardene, the former Prime Minister who assumed the office of Executive President two days ago, appointed Mr Premadasa as Prime Minister in a ceremony at President's House, where large crowds cheered on the pavements outside.

Mr Premadasa, aged 53, represents the crowded Colombo Central constituency in the National Assembly and will continue to hold the portfolios of Local Government and Housing and Construction.

Unlike previous Prime Ministers, Mr Premadasa has neither wealth nor a powerful family. He was born in one of Colombo's central slum districts and is a devout Buddhist with a reputation for working 14 hours a day.

Mr Jayewardene today finished reappointing his 23 ministers and deputy ministers. He himself kept the portfolios of Defence and Plan Implementation.—Reuter.

Bomber on alert vandalized at American base

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Feb 6

A B52 bomber on standby alert at a Georgia air base was vandalized on Friday, probably by staff from the base itself.

Crew members found that the cabin and navigation equipment had been damaged and flight magazines scattered on the floor.

The bomber was taken out of service for repairs and replaced by another. It was one of those kept in constant readiness in case of surprise attack.

Why the saintliness of a medieval Lord Chancellor echoes down the centuries



On the 500th anniversary of the birth of Sir Thomas More, two churchmen discuss his continuing influence

Photograph by courtesy of The National Portrait Gallery

An Anglican view: a martyr to conscience

If the tragedy of Sir Thomas More was to entertain hopes which were progressively dashed, his glory was to preserve his personal integrity inviolate. No one, unless he be caught up in a state of invincible prejudice, will deny that he was a rare and exceptional man—a unique Englishman, indeed a unique European.

Who but he merits the contemporary description, "our noble, new Christian Socrates". To see More "steadily and to see him whole" is easier today than it was hitherto. Religious convictions now evoke less absolute loyalties. Modern scholarship has secured the publication of all his written works, many of which had not been widely read since his lifetime.

This makes possible a more objective estimate, though More himself, with his subtle wit and mordant irony has not always helped to make himself plain. Yet it is still true that no matter how perceptive our historical imagination may be we cannot, in looking at More, wipe the slate clean in respect of all that has happened after him.

Born in Cheapside in 1478, Thomas More was strongly drawn to the religious life, but finally chose the law. His early and formative environment was the closing years of the Middle Ages and he remained essentially medieval in his outlook. He was deeply conscious, as was his friend Erasmus, of the shocking abuses in the Church—its immorality, its wealthy clerics, its renaissance popes. He was equally conscious of a Europe tearing its heart apart by internecine wars between Catholic princes while the real menace was a resurgent Islam. But the accession of the young Henry VIII brought hope and More greeted a seeming new dawn. Tyranny would surely end under a king trained in philosophy and nurtured in Catholic piety.

The reality proved otherwise Henry, under the tutelage of Wolsey, embarked upon wars as senseless as they were expensive. Yet in More's eyes the corruption of an ideal did not invalidate its legitimate claims. His criticism of contemporary society is subtly depicted in his *Utopia, so often misunderstood*, as by Bishop Creighton, who interprets it in terms of 19th century "progressive" liberalism.

This classic work, so far from suggesting an ideal Christian community, portrays a humanist society geared to the four Platonic virtues of wisdom, fortitude, temperance and justice. If such a state can set its sights so high, is it not the more reprehensible that Europe, drawing its inspiration from the revealed truths of Christian faith, should in practice fall so lamentably below it? Thomas More's passionate concern was to preserve the integrity of Christendom as a unitary system; to resist the emergence of the self-authenticating national state with their own version of the Christian religion, their Machiavellian politics and new economics; to revivify, by drastic reform, the universal character of the Church under an enlightened and purged Papacy.

So it was inevitable that More found himself in opposition to his king, whose politics, principles and passions united in a ruthless desire to rid England of an authority which stood between him and his will to power. The resulting conflict was a classic of its kind, fascinating in its psychological interest. To More, acceptance of Henry VIII as supreme head of a national church was an enormity violating the law of God. On the other hand, positively to campaign against it was a presumption which his humble spirit abhorred. Hence his retirement and resignation from the Lord Chancellorship.

His mind was far too acute not to recognize the paradox inherent in his own position. He has accepted in his *Utopia* the right of the state to lay down norms of belief for its subjects and to visit with severe punishment those who actively defied them; but he did not believe in erecting windows into men's souls. Explicitly to assent to an oath which denied Papal supremacy—the safeguard in his eyes of the integrity of Europe—was one thing, to refrain from making a public judgment another.

So on this nice point of principle, Sir Thomas More, wit, cultured scholar, humanist, erstwhile royal adviser and saint went almost clinically to his death. Members of his family, and not only they, thought it a wanton indulgence that a man so superbly equipped, who might at least have restrained the violence of Henry, should carry the scruples of conscience to such an extreme. But More was adamant. He did not seek martyrdom and would happily have withdrawn from the ambiguities of politics to the domesticity of his Chelsea home. But when he was sought out and the challenge thrown down he felt he must "do right though the Heavens fall".

In making his stand "on a narrow base", More claimed to represent the vast majority of Christian men present as well as past yet basically he was asserting the final right of the individual conscience to authenticate itself, even when this meant to "defy power which seemed omnipotent". In this he links himself up with Socrates before him and prisoners of conscience after him. On the courageous witness of such men the preservation of liberty must finally depend.

In making our assessment, we can discount the view that More later in life acted contrary to convictions adumbrated earlier in his *Utopia*; or that as Lord Chancellor he persecuted heretics illegally. But one question, an imponderable one, remains to be asked, though the answer can have little bearing on a judgment of More in himself. Had he his way, the universal Church, with its monasteries, its Papal authority, purged and reformed, would have survived intact. But could it have contained within itself the burgeoning life of a newly quickened Europe? I think not, though More had a greater awareness of the dangers ahead for Europe than any of his contemporaries.

Now at a time when the various churches are looking towards each other, seeking that unity which is agreeable to Christ's will, may we not envisage the final coming together, whatever its shape, as bringing with it a richer, more inclusive range of Christian insight, and experience than obtained in its medieval forebear. The Reformation was not a gigantic mistake from which we need to be rescued. The unity that is to come can never be, ought not to be, the unity that once was.

Edward Carpenter

The author is Dean of Westminster.

A Roman Catholic view: lasting inspiration

Probably no other single figure has played such a significant role in the mentality of the English Roman Catholic community as St Thomas More. He provided me, as a boy, with useful ammunition in the amiable but pointed conversations that I had with my non-Catholic school friends. The best and most attractive man of his generation had died for the cause of Rome. The rest of his life was reduced simply to the fact of his martyrdom.

I only gradually came to realize how much this failed to do Thomas More full justice. The nature of his sanctity is much wider and much richer. His trial of his vocation at the London Charterhouse and departure are more than simply points of biographical interest. More chose to search for holiness in the ordinary world of marriage, family and, most difficult of all, of public service and politics. His death was not a reversal of his life. As a saint he inspires not simply by his death for the sake of conscience, but by the way he managed to combine a deeply religious dimension with a fully human life and the universally attractive qualities of friendship, integrity and humour.

To struggle to be a Christian in the everyday world is a daunting task. Thomas More, however, was not deflected from that by the difficulties. To keep himself pure by shutting out the world would have been for him a form of escapism. While it is clear that he retained a love and admiration for the monastic life, More could not refrain at times from answering with a sharp rebuke those who felt it to be the only way to holiness and who criticized such as Erasmus for his involvement in the world. More himself faced criticism even from fellow humanists for involving himself in public affairs. His canonization in 1935 took place in the context of a Church still defensive and rather apart from the secular world. Now his life, seen as a whole, can speak equally strongly to Catholics trying to adapt to the considerable shift of emphasis highlighted in the Second Vatican Council decree: *The Church in the Modern World*. Here the autonomy and value of secular pursuits is recognized and the need for the Christian to be involved in the world in order to transform it is emphasized.

Thomas More, in contrast to so many canonized saints, is neither priest nor monk. Holiness, which seems sometimes to be the preserve of those who withdraw from a runaway world to achieve union with God, is here found in an outstanding layman.

While he was used by the Diocese of London as "censor" of suspected heretical books, he could not resist commenting that bishops would do well to take more notice of laypeople—many of whom, he suggested, would make better priests than some of the actual incumbents! More is, then, once again very much a man for our time in the context of a Church which is still, since the Vatican Council, coming to terms with the role of laypeople and with the process of a certain de-clericalization.

The final martyrdom should not obscure the fact that More was in all things a moderate—passionate but not fanatical. To be involved in the world of public affairs always entails a certain give and take but there also comes a point when conscience must decide. While not seeking death, when compromise proved out of the question he made a final stand. More's life and death can thus give us hope that such involvement does not necessarily lead to loss of integrity. It is not surprising that he has been a popular symbol throughout the ages in the battle for justice, against tyranny and as standing for the existence of a Law above that of the State.

We should not forget as well that More could be a loyal critic of the Church as well as the State. Through modern scholarship he is being rediscovered as a reformer. While deeply loyal to the ideal of the unity of Christendom, More could be harshly critical of clerical abuse, superstitious practices and papal corruption. His writings reveal a very moderate view of the papacy and authority in the church as based on a real consensus. The Spirit of God speaks not simply through official structures but throughout the whole Church. The freedom of God and the dynamism of the Spirit led More to accept that change was of the essence of the Church.

There are, as I hope I have shown, many more facets to More's character relevant to our age and to current developments in the Church than simply his martyrdom. While I would not claim More to be in the top rank of theologians, his contribution to the English Catholic heritage and his role in Catholic-Anglican controversy makes his quincentenary a good opportunity to re-examine what he really stood for. He is, too, a particularly good starting point for the English Catholic community to take a critical look at the way it has often rather narrowly defined itself, particularly in facing the challenge of recent ecumenical developments such as the Agreed Statement on Authority.

There is, I feel, a fear of losing essentials in any convergence with a Church apparently based on a principle of authority against which More, and subsequent generations of Catholics, stood out with such force. More than anything else perhaps, St Thomas More's trust in the Holy Spirit, his belief in the possibility of true discernment and his lack of fear of the threat of new initiatives and development in the Church can be a real encouragement and inspiration.

Philip Sheldrake S.J.

The author is Chaplain of Wimbledon College.

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8181. SALON KITTY (X). Sep
Perfs Dly (inc Sun) 2.35, 6.15,
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ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St. W.1. 01-629 6176. 105th ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. Until 24 Feb. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30; Thurs. until 7.
BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St. Recent Paintings JOHN NAPPER. until 25th Feb.
CHARLES JACQUE 1813-1894
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7 Royal Arcade Albermarle St., W1.
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148 New Bond St., W.1. 01-629 5116
ARTHUR MELVILLE 1855-1904
& TREASURES FROM THE SLADE
HAYWARD GALLERY, South Bank, S.E.1 (Arts Council). DADA AND SURREALISM REVIEWED. Until 27 March. Adm. £1. 25p Mon & 6-8 Tue.-Thur. Mon. 1-8. Tue-Thur. 10-8. Fri. & Sat. 10-6. Sun. 12-6. Details of lectures from Colin O'Malley. 01-629 9495. Parties by written application only.
LEFEVRE GALLERY, An Exhibition of Important 19th and 20th CENTURY PAINTINGS. Wdys. 10-5. Sat. 10-1. 30 Bruton St., London. W.1. Tel. 01-493 1572.
NATIONAL BOOK LEAGUE GALLERY 7, Albemarle St., W.1. 01-493 4001. English Watercolours. Exhibited by Michael Spratt. 6-18 March. Mon.-Fri. 10-5. Sats. 10-1.
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY. London. W.C.2. 01-930 8611. SIR THOMAS MORE, 1477-1535. A vivid and colourful exhibition of his life and times. Adm. 40p. Wkdys. 10-5. Sat. 10-6. Sun. 2-6.
REDFERN GALLERY, ADRIAN HEATH New Paintings and Gouaches. 31st January-22nd February. 20 Cork Street, London. W.1. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats. 10-1.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

1. LIGHT FANTASTIC, an Exhibition of holography. Open Now. Adm. £1.
2. LEONARDO DA VINCI Anatomical Drawings. Until 19th Feb. Adm. £1.
3. ROBERT MOTHERWELL Retrospective. Until 19 March. Adm. 60p.
4. GUSTAVE COURBET 1819-1877 (Arts Council Exhibition). Until 19 March. Adm. £1.
5. CITYSCAPE 1910 39 Urban Themes in American, German & British Art (Arts Council Exhibition). Until 19 March. Adm. Free.
Half-price to all exhibitions for students and pensioners & until 1.45 on Sundays. All exhibitions open daily 10-6 (inc. Suns.). Open late Mons. and Thurs. till 8 p.m.
SERPENTINE GALLERY, Kensington Gdns. W.2. (Arts council). JACK SMITH: paintings and drawings 1965-77. Until 19 Feb. Daily 10-5. Adm. Free.
THE NEW ASHGATE GALLERY, Wagon Yard, Farnham, Surrey. 025 153208. Drawings, Etchings and Paintings Ardizzone & Grose. Feb. 7th-March 4 10-5. Closed Wednesdays.
VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM. Sth. Ken. THE POOLE POTTERIES. Until 9 April. REVUDEVILLE. Until 2 April. Adm. free SAY WHEN. Until 12 Feb. Adults 50p. children free. Wkdys. 10-5.50. Suns. 2.30-5.30. Closed Fridays.
YEW TREE COTTAGE GALLERY, Ingleby, S. Derbyshire. 03316 2894. THE ART OF PRINTMAKING with Ceramic Sculpture, by Peter Beard. 1-28 February. Daily 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

COURBET

The Burlington Magazine Fifth Annual Lecture is being given by Alan Bowness on Courbet's *Portrait of Proudhon* at the British Academy Lecture Theatre, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1, at 5.30 on Monday, 20th February. Tickets £1.50 (students £1.00) to include admission to the Courbet Exhibition from The Burlington Magazine, Elm House, 10-16 Elm Street, London, W.C.1. (01-278 2345).

THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE

(continued on page 6)

Arts Council
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Photography Bursaries and Awards 1978/79

In 1978 the Arts Council is offering Bursaries of £5,000 and £3,000, and Awards of £1,000 and £500 to enable photographers to continue with their own work free from the financial pressures or regular commitments of teaching or commercial work. Emphasis will be placed on the production of new work for presentation to the public through exhibition, publication or donation. The assessment of applications will be based primarily on the quality of photographs submitted.

Application forms for the Bursaries must be completed and returned with all supporting material to the Arts Council not later than 14 April, 1978. The corresponding closing date for the Award applications is 9 June, 1978.

Application forms and information sheets may be obtained on request from the Photography Officer, Department T.1, Arts Council of Great Britain, 105 Piccadilly, London, W1V 0AU.

THE ARTS

Tropical scandals

Peter Nichols





Peter Nichols (above), and (left) Denis Quilley as Capt. Terri Dennis

Privates on Parade is back in the West End at the Piccadilly Theatre. Peter Nichols recalls his days in the Combined Services Entertainments Division in Singapore, which provided the background for his prize-winning comedy.

The first foreign soil I trod was the moonlit sand of Castel Benito. This was December, 1945, and we'd flown from England huddled in the unheated bomb-bays of a Liberator. In a futile attempt to contain our body heat, we'd worn great-coats over airforce blue, two pair of socks, gloves, balaclavas, scarves, blankets and Mae Wests. Even so, we arrived in North Africa numb with cold and wolfed down the eggs and chips served by Italian prisoners of war.

That year we ate our plum pudings within sight of the Pyramids ("Like sitting next to the Prince of Wales at dinner" wrote Evelyn Waugh). We arrived at Karachi, in India, on the first day of 1946, and the year was spent in ignorant self-concern on a small maintenance unit near Calcutta. In the mornings, the tolerably cool time of day, I served as clerk in the orderly room; after tiffen, while the others dozed, I went back and sat there alone, rattling out on the office Remington a series of plays in the styles of Coward, Wilde, Saroyan, O'Neill and Ben Travers. None of these has survived but, to judge from my letters home, clearly I hadn't the faintest clue how to write coherent prose. Ten years spent in a *decent grammar school* had left me with no taste for literature. The solitary erk in the orderly room was a prim virgin, bewildered to be in Bengal and determined to live as though he was still in North Bristol, between the orphanage and the allotments. Nothing I'd learnt in imperial history or pink-map geography had prepared me for the horrors of Calcutta. The great commotions on the Maidan near Government House, where Hindus, Moslems, Communists and Congress supporters clashed violently, were to me only obstacles that might put the city out of bounds and prevent my visits to the air-conditioned Metro cinema. Later that year hundreds of deaths in one night became commonplace and yet were only a glimpse of what was to come after Partition.

Obviously the British had to go, the sooner the better. Everyone was waiting for a political stage manager (Mountbatten, as it turned out) to drop the cloth on this amazing spectacle. I hated what I saw of the end of British India and, though we had to be callous to function at all, I felt sorry for its victims, particularly the Anglo-Indians of mixed parentage. It was not at all uncommon for a Eurasian girl pregnant then request (and receive) some faraway posting where the girl couldn't reach him. Among my snapshots is one of a smiling girl on a diving board, the original for Sylvia Morgan in *Privates on Parade*. Christmas that year I spent on a troopship somewhere off the coast of Burma, bitterly resentful when officers of my own age came to perform the humiliating ritual of serving dinner on the men's mess-decks.

Months later in Singapore I successfully auditioned for Combined Services Entertainments and was released from guard duties, parades, short haircuts and the company of men who could only read *Beano* and *Dandy*. I became an unpaid acting sergeant but the pay was unimportant—caste was everything! Caste and a bright crowd of people. We thought ourselves a mad lot and perhaps we were, by the standards of postwar Singapore, an Equatorial Catterick. Today we'd look about as mad as a convention of quantity surveyors. Indeed, one or two of those young ravers *are* now quantity surveyors, fat and fifty with long mortgages. Another sells cars, one is in the garment trade, one plays the bassoon and a few are still in show business. At least two have died of old age (civilians who were middle-aged then) and two killed themselves. The first suicide was our company sergeant-major, whose story is roughly told in *Privates*. The newspaper report of his death reads:

He was to appear in the district court yesterday on charges of criminal breach of trust and extortion and had served six months for possession of arms and ammunition. In a room at the camp, he was stated to have gulped a tumbler of what appeared to be whisky in the presence of two other sergeants, who later discovered the drink to be cyanide.

He died mumbling incoherently about the Special Investigation Branch, as Reg Drummond does in the play.

Our commanding officer, who was almost as corrupt, took an overdose in a Leeds hotel some years later, soon after broadcasting for the local Children's Hours as Third Frog. Obviously he bore no resemblance to the officer in the play. I based this man on memoirs of the Malayan emergency by some dotty Major whose dialogue for the other ranks was peppered with "loi, love a duck" and "stone the crows".

It was in CSE that my education began. I read *The Ragged-Trousered Philanthropists* and Bernard Shaw's *Political What's What* and became a lifelong leftie. Stanley Baxter explained Existentialism and the rest of us nodded intelligently, lounging in our Chinese satin kimonos, smoking through cigarette-holders. We even had a sub-culture—the world of queans (nineteenth-twentieth century Australian from OE cwene) with its own lingo and world-view. The early scenes in *Private's* showing Steven's initiation are a fair account of my own. The original for Terri Dennis, the drag-artiste, was Barri Chatt, a civilian dancer escaping the rigours of Attlee's Britain.

Twelve of us were in a revue called *At Your Service*.

We're men of the service,
We're at your service entertaining you!

we shouted in the opening number, stamping and pointing on the last word, in case there should be a shadow of doubt. Kenneth Williams followed with imitations of Bette Davis, Nellie Wallace and Felix Aylmer.

"Felix who?" asked bewildered squaddies.

Later there was tap-dancing, magic, a torchlit choir singing "Pedro the Fisherman" and a cod panto. We toured the island, mainland Malaya and Hongkong in search of an audience and everywhere there were bombs, murders, rumours of ambush. Five thousand Chinese guerrillas were preparing to create a state of emergency for over ten years, holding down ten times their number of British forces, as well as a hundred thousand police and home guard. The Communists learnt a hard lesson from their eventual defeat; the French and Americans presumably did not.

Meanwhile I was reading E. M. Foster, Virginia Woolf, Lawrence, Melville, Graham Greene, becoming in turn a Cambridge sensitive, a pagan, a whaler, a renegade Catholic but ending up a Utopian Socialist.

Flying home in 1948, we stopped again at Karachi, now capital of a new country. "Why don't the British quit Pakistan?" someone had written on a wall and a British soldier had added: "The sooner the better".

In the Fifties Kenneth Williams took me to see Barri Chatt, now appearing in *Boys will be Girls*—appropriately at the Queen's, Poplar. It seemed to me an esoteric performance in an abstruse tongue but, as shrieks of "Vada" and "Bona" rang through the house, the theatre manager told us it was good family entertainment. Time has proved him right but neither the Queen's, Poplar, nor Barri himself survived into the age of Danny La Rue, Larry Grayson, drag shows in the local and *Privates on Parade* by the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Reading the Smiths

The Serpentine Gallery is showing paintings and drawings of the last 12 years by Jack Smith under the title of *The Written and the Diagrammatic*. He was praised as a young painter in the Fifties for his early social realist work (dubbed somewhat stupidly "kitchen sink"), his later abstract works have been consistently exhibited in dealers' galleries in London and he has had two retrospectives at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, in 1959 and 1971. So he could not quite be described as a "neglected" artist. Nevertheless, despite the fact that he has been regularly shown, his work has not often been written about at length—unfortunately one of the keys to fame in today's art world—and he remains an isolated figure, whose works are considered to be "difficult".

The Serpentine show is a demonstration that abstract art can be intelligent and thought-provoking, a necessary corrective to the aesthetic indulgence of the current Robert Motherwell exhibition at the Royal Academy, an artist whose example (as I suggested in my review last week) has been the source of so much mindless and overblown abstract painting in this country. A book about Smith has been published by the Sunderland Arts Centre (who organized the recent touring exhibition of his work): *Jack Smith: Paintings and Drawings 1949-1976* (Coelfrith Press, £3.50). It includes an interview with Smith in which he cites a painting by the De Stijl artist, Bart van der Leck, in the Tate Gallery: "It's made by the elimination of still life elements, it's quite a different painting from that of somebody who has made those marks straight on to the white canvas." Like Mondrian and Kandinsky, who are also referred to in the interview, Van der Leck arrived at abstract painting by a long and slow process of *abstraction* from the object: the gradual simplification and whittling down of the figurative elements in the picture. It seems to have been Smith's gain, growing up as a painter in the climate of British art after the war hostile to modernism, to have had to go through this process of abstraction himself and on his own, in a gradual move from social realist works to a linguistic abstract art.

It was an easier struggle for Smith than it was for artists like Mondrian, Kandinsky and Van der Leck, for he had their example of 30 or 40 years before, although to look at what they had done as a possible model was unfashionable and unpopular then. But his work has a much greater inner energy and sense of struggle than those younger artists who began to paint large abstract colour paintings while they were still at art school (or still at school).

In his linguistic analysis of Smith's written and diagramatic paintings in the Coelfrith Press book, "Jack Smith's Word-Objects and the Language of Signs", the Portuguese literary critic Helder Macedo points out that Smith's pictures cannot be "read" for precise sense, but rather for what they may reveal about the structural and syntactical basis of languages. It is true that there is no exact "meaning" that can be extracted from Smith's paintings; they are like looking at a language which has been forgotten and which has not yet been deciphered. We can infer a good deal about its structure and the people who wrote it without quite "understanding" it. To get this far does, of course, require some knowledge by the viewer of the way in which languages work. Only in this sense are Jack Smith's works difficult. (The exhibition continues until February 19.)

Until recently photography at the V&A was a section of the Library. Now it is part of a reorganized Department of Prints, Drawings, Paintings and Photographs, with an assistant keeper in charge of it: a step forward. *Old and Modern Masters of Photography* is a selection from the museum's holdings, part of an exhibition called *Treasures of the Print Room*, each section devoted to a different aspect of the department's stock. It suffers from the diluting effect of all such one-of-each selections, and it might have been better to have devoted the show to a single master, like another section of the exhibition: graphic work from 1907 to 1937 by Karl Schmidt-Rottluff, one of the strongest of the *Brücke* group of German Expressionist artists. These shows continue until May 7.

Photographic exhibitions proliferate, in London and elsewhere. Daniel Meadows, who used to tour the country in a photographic bus, stopped in towns and cities for anyone who wanted to have their photographs taken. Some of these were published in a book, *Living Like This*, in 1975. Between 1975 and 1977 Meadows was artist-in-residence to Pendle District, in Lancashire, and he is now preparing a second book about the area around the town of Nelson and the decline of the cotton industry.

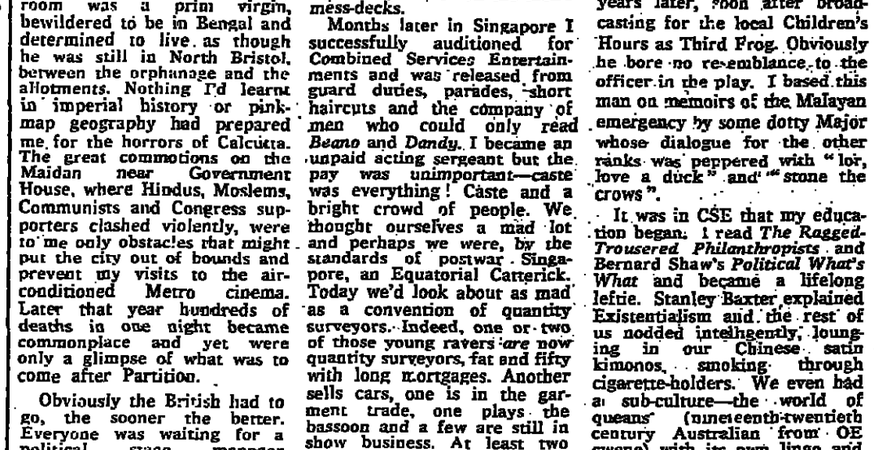
The Half Moon Gallery are showing an exhibition of photographs by Meadows, *Shuttles, Steam & Soot*, which documents an old steam-driven cotton mill, Bancroft Shed. The pictures are taken with great respect and sympathy for the people who work in the mill. The texts, by Meadows, are simple and informative and illuminate the pictures. Or, rather, the pictures illustrate the texts. Because of the noise of the looms, the workers evolved a language of lip-reading and gesture known as "mee-mawing" or "mi-mowing". At the end of the Fifties more efficient and even noisier looms were imported which meant that workers had to wear "ear-defenders" to protect their hearing. These are now sometimes fitted with earphones piped with pop-music and over which the manager can address the work-force. Some require the workers to wear a face-mask, so that they can no longer see their fellow workers' lips and communicate by mee-mawing. This is not the case at Bancroft Shed, but Meadows shows all this in some pictures taken in the more modern mills.

He made a series of photos of Stanley Graham, who gave up a better paid job to tend the huge old steam engine which still drives all the looms at Bancroft Shed by means of belts and pulleys. There is one of him having his hair cut by Frank from the warehouse. "Your hair grows in the firm's time, so you might as well have it cut in the firm's time." As a result of Meadows's photographic project Stanley himself began to take photographs of the engine he tends. These are exhibited among Meadows's own pictures. They are very different, concentrating on the machinery in movement, and are curiously dispassionate.

The show ends with a series about the cleaning of the boilers and the work of the steeple-jacks who service or demolish the huge chimneys of the mills (each to a different design which stood as a symbol of each firm). The boilers are cleaned three times a year, Christmas, Easter and at Wakes Weeks in July. The leader of the "Welldone" team of boiler-cleaners, Charlie Sutton, has retired ("knackered at 50", in his own words) and disbanded the team. Now the mill will have to pay twice as much for a London firm which uses a vacuum cleaner and space suits. Meadows's photographs show the "Well-done" team in the boilers and flues, still hot and filled with ash—a "living hell" as Charlie Sutton describes it. It is the obverse of Stanley Graham's beautiful pictures of his gleaming engine. This is one of the best photographic exhibitions to have been shown in London recently. Word and image are used together with maximum effect. It continues until February 15.

By contrast Homer Sykes's *Traditional British Calendar Customs* (shown at the ICA along with Sir Benjamin Stone's Edwardian photographs on the same theme) appear pretty superficial and folksy.

Paul Overy



By the lake in The Seagull: the play within a play

The Seagull
BBC 1

Stanley Reynolds

Chekhov described *The Seagull* as "a comedy with three female parts, six males, four acts, a lake, landscape, much talk of literature and about five tons of love". The wisecrack about five tons of love is, I fear, a touch of good comedy that never found its way into the play. But Chekhov was beset with obstacles in writing it and early productions had monstrously bad receptions. The *Play of the Month's* production on Sunday on BBC 1 also had its difficulties.

The three female parts were played by the fine actresses Zoe Caldwell as Mme Arkadina, Georgina Hale as Masha, and Julia Schofield as Nina; and the men were led by the stout Anthony Bate as Dr Dorn, the baleful-faced Michael Gambon as Trigorian, Stephen Rea as young Constantin, and marvelous old Alan Webb as Sorin.

But the lake and the landscape created some trouble. In David Jones's production, Michael Lindsay-Hogg, the director, seemed at first to be giving us a weird sort of television commercial. With all those people walking about the landscape one was reminded of the commercials where people drink that rosé wine. Even the landscape looked sort of courtesy of Habitat. And there were all those fellows in obvious costumes, with big white hats like the good guys' branch of the Mafia having a picnic.

I suppose if a theatre company could run to it, a lake of a few acres would be breathtaking, just what Chekhov ordered. But this is television. The viewer felt as if he was being palmed off with a film; a follow-up, say, to *Far From the Madding Crowd* that somehow did not make it on a cinema circuit and was getting its first outing on television.

Television's best landscape is the human face and once inside the house, in the claustrophobic air of weary chat about books and that five tons of love, things got better. Mr Bate and Mr Gambon were entirely convincing but their parts were easy. The difficult tricks were left to Mr Rea and Miss Schofield.

I have seen much cheaper productions of *The Seagull* but always Constantin's suicide and Nina's transformation from the magical girl to the world-weary cynical actress seemed not only believable but inevitable. That was not the case on Sunday. I rather think Mr Jones and Mr Lindsay-Hogg tried too hard with all that landscape, attempting to freak us out with agoraphobia at the start.

That managed to distract us and broke our concentration and seemed to break the play into bits and pieces. The final meeting of Nina and Constantin, with the resulting suicide, merely seemed like an easy way out not of the dilemma of the character but of ending a play that looked as if it might go on until the revolution.

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

John Percival

It seemed to me that Ashton's *A Month in the Country* on Saturday afternoon surprisingly gained more than it lost by having replacements for most of the original cast. You would not expect anyone to match the depth Lynn Seymour gives Natalia and the glamorous charm of Anthony Dowell's Beliaev, but by my reading those qualities are at odds with Turgenev's play about a bored woman projecting fantasies on an ordinary young man.

Marguerite Porter and Michael Coleman offer an alternative reading of the roles which I find more convincing. Porter's mixture of frivolity and earnest anxiety as Natalia is well done, once she has got past the difficult first solo with its tricky footwork, which she seemed to find heavy going. Coleman shows Beliaev overwhelmed by events, enjoying but not understanding the universal infatuation, and at the end without resources to rebuild his shattered life.

Graham Fletcher's face is too mature to look like a child's but he dances Kolia with a high-spirited energy that just allows him to get away with the part. Laura Connor proves ideally suited to Porter's usual role of the maid, with a down-to-earth quality that sets her in sharper contrast with the family. Philip Gammon played the piano solos feelingly, but the more I hear these minor Chopin pieces the less apt I find them, mannered and soft-centred.

La Bayadère also had a new cast. Alfredo Thorogood gives Nikiya a gentle serenity that is unusual but appropriate. There is a quality in her arm movements that an older generation of dancers had, now in danger of being lost. Whether on the ground, leaping or lifted by her partner, her body and limbs are always perfectly composed.

Wayne Eagling's Solor has bravado but is roughly finished. He, the *corp de ballet* and Judith Howe in her promising solo with cabrioles all show abilities that could be better deployed if the ballet's original producer worked with them. Surely it is high time for everybody's sake to overcome the coolness that has been allowed to grow between Nureyev and the Royal Ballet?

'Heirs and rebels'

LPO/Solti
Festival Hall

William Mann

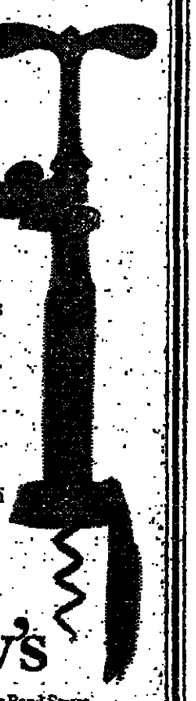
Some time before he became a British subject Sir Georg Solti was conducting British music with an idiomatic accent (the ability is not synonymous with talking the verbal language, I hasten to add), and he is serious about it, as his concerts continue to show. He is making us wait for Tippett's fourth symphony until he can give it to us with his Chicago orchestra; meanwhile there are other British scores in which he is interested. On Sunday, with his London orchestra, he turned to the "Heirs and Rebels" as Vaughan Williams and Holst described themselves.

The choice of Vaughan Williams's fourth symphony and Holst's *The Planets* was not surprising: they share musical characteristics likely to stir Solti's known interpretative sympathies. Not least is the element of rebellion in both scores. If there was a surprise in Solti's readings it was that he treated them both as classics, though he projected them at the required high voltage.

In *The Planets* that is perhaps to be expected. It is no longer the style of the work (much used by popular media as background music) that astonishes a concert audience, but its undiminished vitality of invention. "Mars", as conducted by Sir Georg, had lost his gruesome aspect, become a rather exhilarating fellow; what one admired was the tension of the movement, its robust colours, and the vigorous melodies "Venus" now seemed a more original conception, likewise "Saturn" and the concluding "Neptune", serene and subtle, full of delicacies that, by 1915, had become typical of an artistic climate but here were reflected otherwise, idiosyncratically. So much Solti's reading suggested; "Venus" might even have been more tenderly handled, but "Jupiter" went grandly, not too heavy.

The Vaughan Williams symphony, once regarded as a fearsome prescience of the Second World War, has been more cogently interpreted by the composer's widow as the emotional explosion of a creative musician reviewing his hidden inner self; others might hazard that the work fights against imminent elderliness protesting the composer's still potent vitality, even aggressiveness. That is rather how Solti and an alert, grand-sounding LPO seemed to interpret it, as a personal, private document, the most coherent, indeed the more moving.

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Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

SPORT

Football

The Spartan spirit lives again

By Stuart Jones

Stoke 2 Blyth Spartans 3

Blyth Spartans, the sole surviving non-League club in the FA Cup, stepped on to the Victoria Ground last night arrayed in unfamiliar colours of green and white. They stepped off after a lap of honour and to a standing ovation, dressed in a thick coat of mud. In between, they covered themselves in a shining glory that will grow brighter as the memories gather dust in their home county, Northumberland.

After waiting for some 10 days to play this postponed tie, they formed three attacks of note and, with remarkable economy, scored each time. They held the stage only at the beginning and at the end. Yet it was enough to ensure a safe passage through to the fifth round against Wrexham.

It was a tale of two ricochets that, at first, looked to have taken the tie away from Blyth and, in the end, swung it back in their favour. The Spartans of Ancient Greece were famed for their qualities of simplicity, endurance and courage. The Spartans of Blyth, in their turn, will now be famed for those attributes.

The opening goal arrived in the eleventh minute. Robert Carney's left-footed corner curled in towards Clarke, alone in his goalmouth. He stretched up and half caught the ball but it slithered out of his hands and Johnson, formerly of Newcastle United, Southend and Brentford, slid it home from a couple of yards.

A small pocket of green scarves was raised in triumph some 120 yards away, high up in the open stand at the opposite end of the ground. But their supporters needed steel in their nerves to withstand the ensuing onslaught. Indeed earlier—after only 30 seconds—Busby had rounded the keeper only to shoot into the side netting.

Efforts from Conroy and Waterson went close before Mendall's shot was half saved by Clarke and then headed off the line by Guthrie, who has already experienced Wembley dreams with Sunderland. But at the interval, Blyth retained their lead in spite of the constant pressure.

Within three minutes on the hour, however, all their work seemed to have been undone. From a free kick, a ricochet landed at the feet of Busby and from 15 yards, he found the far corner of the net. Then Conroy's corner was headed on by Busby and Crooks, waiting at the far post, headed home.

The Stoke supporters, who had cruelly taunted their players with a cry for Jimmy Greenhoff, found their voices and the tie seemed to have slipped away from Blyth, currently second in the Northern League. But in the seventy-fifth minute the second ricochet changed it all.

From a free kick the ball bounced off the wall and five Blyth forwards followed it as it spun away and struck the left hand post. It came back to Steven Carney, whose header crept towards the other post and, with a soft whimper, crawled into the net. Almost comical in construction, it was a serious blow for Stoke.

In the final minute the fairy tale was completed. Guthrie took a free kick, Steven Carney flicked it across the goalmouth and Johnson raised the roof of the net. Blyth's secretary said recently that it would be a miracle if they reached the next round. If that be the case, there are now 18,765 witnesses who have seen a miracle.

STOKE CITY: R. Jones, J. Marsh, A. Lindsay, H. Kendall, A. Dodd, A. Bloor, S. Waddington, G. Scott, V. Busby, T. Conroy (sub, G. Cook), G. Crooks.

BLYTH SPARTANS: D. Clarke, J. Waterson, R. Guthrie, J. Alder (sub, D. Varty), R. Scott, T. Dixon, A. Shoulder, K. Houghton, T. Johnson, S. Carney, R. Carney.

Referee: G. Nolan (Stockport).

Boxing

A chance for Conteh to show who is boss

By Srikumar Sen

After 11 months out in the cold, John Conteh, Britain's former world light-heavyweight champion, tonight returns to a warm and well-lighted place, where boxing's establishment and big business can take a new and long look at the man who has been waging a one-man war, striking, one could almost say, for better conditions for the man on the receiving end. Tonight he holds the floor thanks to the Sobell Centre and Eddie Thomas, trying to break into the London promoting business and whose voice has brought something of the peaks and valleys of South Wales to the flatlands of Islington. Conteh takes on Joe Cokes, of Texas, brother of Curtis Cokes, the former world welterweight champion.

I have never seen Conteh as fit as he is now. His punching and floor work show a frightening meanness. His right hand, which gave him so much trouble, is in excellent shape, though I did notice there was a certain hesitation when letting it go as if something at the back of his mind suspected all was not right then correcting, as if saying, "You're okay, keep going". The rights landed with devastating crispness stopping sparring partners in their tracks.

Cokes, like Conteh, has also been out of the ring for a spell because of the death of his son, but he returned to the ring last October to beat Melvin Marr on points and in December to knock-out Romnie Chichion in two rounds. Cokes has had 27 bouts (won 19, lost seven and drawn one) against Conteh's 30 which includes one disputed defeat. Eleven of Cokes's opponents have been knocked out or stopped. Cokes has been beaten by Alvaro Lopez and Lonnie Bennet, both of whom lost to Conteh in world title bouts.

Cokes looks gangling and too-close-footed to go far but that could be just a deceptive exterior like some long distance runners have. He has a long reach and hits with hard lefts and rights. His body is loose as are his arms which fly out at great speed. He looked more like a hitter on the retreat, but his brother, Curtis, told me he is just as capable of holding the centre of the ring.

In sparring he seemed capable of absorbing heavy punishment which bears out Angelo Dundee's faith in his durability. Conteh will have to be a couple of moves ahead of him to know in which direction Cokes is going to go. Cokes can double up with the right and the left but I do not expect Conteh to be unduly troubled. In his present frame of mind (and body) I do not think Conteh fears anybody and could beat anybody even Ali, if he could get to him, that is! He has just got to win and win well to command a really big purse against Mate Parlov, of Yugoslavia, the world champion.

Bunny Johnson, Britain's light-heavyweight champion, will have to move smartly against David Conteh (no relation) of New York. The American, at 25, is five years younger than Johnson and fights like Joe Frazier and under Gil Clancy's wing. He is due to meet Michael Spinks on the Ali-Leon Spinks bill on February 15. Training at the Old Red Lion in Islington, he explained to me the way he works: "I'm there, in front of you just coming in. Like Joe Frazier. I like to feel my fists sinking into the body." He did just that to Cokes in the gymnasium and to Cokes's credit he remained suitably unmoved.

Johnson at least will not have to make the openings if David Conteh is as good as his work-out. He will have a ready-made target in range. With a neck as thick as a pillar box Johnson's target will be rolling and genuflecting in front of him before unleashing those short body hooks. Conteh's performance was as smooth as Johnson's was craggy. But John Conteh and his trainer, George Francis, would be the first to admit, especially after a long lay-off, the ring is quite different to the gymnasium: It is not difficult to make paid punchbags and hanging punchbags look like statuary. Why, even Frank Cannon, that overweight detective, looks like a ball of fire moving round his parked Lincoln Continental.



Joe Cokes: loose mover with power in both hands.

Squash rackets

Astonishing feats by the amazing Awad

By Rex Bellamy

Squash Rackets Corresponden

Gamal Awad (Egypt) beat Ma sood Ahmed (Pakistan), 3— 9—2, 4—9, 9—3, 9—5, in minutes to win the British amate squash rackets championsh sponsored by Sun Life Assuranc at Wembley last evening. Awad the first Egyptian winner sin Ibrahim Amin in 1969. In achie ing that distinction he remind us of what we had been missin This was one of the most exhilar ting matches to grace a Briti court since the peak years Abou Taleb, the last Egypti open champion, and the gift Egyptian amateurs of the sav era.

After the match Maqsood sign a three-year professional contra Before deserting the amate ranks he came tantalisingly clo to adding the British champio ship to the world title he alrea held. He led 3—0 in the four game, but put a backhand dr in the tin. In the fifth he bou ced back from 3—7 to 5—7 befo making an equally unusual err with a backhand angle.

From 0—3 down in the four game Awad won 11 consecut points and 16 out of 19. Duri this phase the speed and agility his retrieving were astonishi The man was all over the plac He played one shot while fall and attempted another with a de perate lunge while on his knee At 6—3 in the fifth game Ba mesi went sprawling in midcou The remarkable thing was that h hours earlier Awad had emerg from the physiotherapist's clin with both feet bandaged becau they were so badly blistered. his fittest he presumably trav fast enough to make a cheer apprehensive.

Not that Maqsood was happ about. It was simply th whereas the Pakistani's quicksp was merely exceptional, Awa was unreasonable. Between the they picked up enough half-ni to induce ordinary mortals to gi up the game and check the pri of wheelchairs. But let it not thought that this was just a ca of adventurous youth being off the leash and dashing abo like demented greyhounds. T court was ablaze with audacio shots—every one in the book, a most of them played with degree of precision that we h no right to expect in view of t haste with which such splendi had to be improvised.

The spectacle was enhanced the basic contrast between M sood's crisp, deft efficiency a Awad's joyously explosive inspi tion. The efficiency expert w in charge for one game. It Awad's legs and squash sudde went into overdrive. He mo faster, took the ball earlier, it harder, and struck a bet length. With flying colours passed the ultimate test of cle a player's ability to explore complete range of pace with loss of control.

Awad's volleyed drops, esp ally from the backhand, seer to be drawn to the nick by m netism. He took so many t that he was always flirting w the frontier between the possi and the ridiculous. But fort favoured the brave, as it sho The only pity was that Maqso obviously destined for a dist guished career as a professior had to lose such a close totally delightful match. could have dealt with a magici even an acrobat. But he co not deal with both.

Bolton in a league of their own

Bolton 1 Mansfield 0

Bolton Wanderers earned a fifth round FA Cup tie at Middlesbrough when they beat Mansfield Town at Burnden Park. A third-minute goal from Frank Worthington was sufficient to give Bolton a victory that was far more emphatic than the scoreline.

Mansfield were forced to defend stubbornly for long periods, and only a series of bad misses and gallant defensive work kept out Bolton, who are the only side from Lancashire to get past the fourth round.

The crucial goal came when Worthington rose unchallenged to head a cross from John Ritson past Rod Arnold. Worthington was Bolton's liveliest player, and he should have scored at least two others with close-range efforts. On another occasion he was thwarted by a brave save by the impressive Arnold.

Yesterday's results

FA Cup, fourth round

Bolton (1) 1 Worthington Mansfield (0) 0 25,930

Winners away to Middlesbrough.

Stoke (0) 2 Busby Crooks 18,765 Blyth S (1) 3 Johnson 2 S. Carney

Winners away to Wrexham.

FA Cup, fourth round replay

Wrexham (2) 4 McNeil 2 Shinton Cartwright Newcastle (1) 1 Burns 18,679

Winners home to Blyth Spartans.

Scottish Cup, third round

Aberdeen (1) 2 Harper 2 Ayr (0) 0

Winners home to Brechin or St Johnstone.

Airdrie (1) 2 Reid Joquin Hearts (2) 3 Park Busby Gibson

Winners away to Dumbarton.

Celtic (2) 7 McCluskey 3 McAdam 2 Burns McDonald Dundee (1) 1 Schaedler

Winners home to Kilmarnock.

St Mirren (1) 1 Torrance Kilmarnock (1) 2 Maxwell McDowell

Winners away to Celtic.

Stirling A (0) 0 Clydebank (0) 0 Abandoned after 82 minutes.

Scottish Cup, third round replays

Dumbarton (0) 2 McLeod Fyfe Alloa (0) 1 McGarry

Winners home to Hearts.

Montrose (0) 1 Darcy Queen of S (1) 3 Hood Dreksen Bryce

Winners away to Dundee United.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Cup: Fourth round replay: Hillingdon 5, Wateriooville 5 (after extra time) League (Premier division): Bath 3, Wealdstone 1.

FA TROPHY: Dagenham 4, Crook Town 0; Bedford 1, Hedgeford 1.

FA CASE: Fourth round replay: Haringey Borough 1, Buckingham Town 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Mossley 5, Buxton 2; Wigan Athletic 0, Netherfield 0.

RUGBY UNION: Pontypridd 13, Maesteg 17; Bridgend 11, Newport 6; Northampton 31, Club Universitario Buenos Aires 4.

Football fixtures

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final round (first leg): Liverpool v Arsenal (7.30).

THIRD DIVISION: Carlisle United v Rotherham United (7.30); Walsall v Lincoln City (7.30).

FOURTH DIVISION: Barnsley v Aldershot (7.30); Hartlepool United v Halifax Town (7.15).

SCOTTISH CUP: Third round: St Johnstone v Brechin City (7.30); Stirling Albion v Clydebank (7.30).

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Kingstonian v Slough (7.30).

League Cup: First round: Barking v Croydon; Dulwich Hamlet v Sutton United; Hemel Hempstead v Bishop's Stortford; Walthamstow Avenue v Tilbury.

RUGBY UNION: Hospitals Cup, semi-final round: St Bartholomew's v London (Richmond, 2.30).

Blaydon Races 'off' at Racecourse Ground

By Tom German

Wrexham 4 Newcastle 1

Only the European champions, Liverpool, have left the Racecourse Ground this season with their plate tinging with the taste of victory and not for a moment in last night's FA Cup fourth round replay did those once-redoubtable cup fighters, Newcastle United suggest that they could emulate them. The first division side had little to offer in the opening half and not a lot more after the interval against the men from the third division, who had lessons to provide in exploiting open tracts and certainly an example to set in zest and spirit. It was a richly deserved and memorable triumph.

Wrexham could scarcely have declared their intentions more persuasively right at the outset; they, and McNeil in particular, began precisely where they left off in the north-east just over a week ago but pulling Newcastle aside and scoring with 90 seconds. A moment of deciding upon a direction in the less clinging patch of the centre circle was followed by Wrexham channelling an attack up the right; Shinton headed the ball into the goalmouth, where McNeil spun quickly before Bird recognised the danger and hooked the ball in.

It was a marvellous piece of quick thinking which for almost the entire opening half seemed to drain Newcastle of spirit. Those battling Geordies of the 50s would have reacted very differently. Wrexham, meanwhile, looked for spaces to run into and found each other skilfully in the mud. Thomas tilled an approach route along the left and Shinton nursed the ball shrewdly along the right flank with a stealth which might have turned Newcastle's defence more readily on a less clinging surface.

Whittle almost did so when two Newcastle defenders seemed to have him securely shackled; he squeezed between them to reach Cartwright's centre to mook the ball brilliantly over his head and only Mahoney's quick reaction kept him out. Another blow in that stage would have dashed what little heart Newcastle seemed to have. They survived and in the last 10 minutes of the half reminded Wrexham that there was still a long way to go.

Crosses from the left provided opportunities for Nattrass and Gowling. Both were squandered and it was some measure of how firmly Wrexham held the reins that it took Newcastle 35 minutes to secure their first sighting of goal. That long period of dominance, suddenly counted for nothing, as Newcastle stalled; Nattrass crossed from the right, Burns tried a shot and the ball was deflected over the line off Roberts's legs. A quick chorus of "Blaydon Races" was promptly stilled, however, by a piece of quick thinking by Shinton. Jockeying for position 25 yards out, he spotted Mahoney yards off his line and promptly chided the goalkeeper for his carelessness by lobbing the ball over his head.

Newcastle quickened their step in the second half, especially when Cassidy replaced Blackley on the hour; now at last, there was some appreciation of their plight, but some soundly effective defensive work by Wrexham, with Dwyer especially firm along the left flank, blunted them. And still it was Wrexham who looked to have the sharper sting as Whittle and McNeil led their attacks. With six minutes left, the two combined to ensure the departure of another famous name from the FA Cup for this season. Whittle scampered away along the right and had ample time to wait for McNeil to move into position to notch his twenty-second goal of the season. And just to rub it in, Wrexham still had another blow to deliver.

A wretched back pass by Gowling, which epitomised Newcastle's ineptitude on the night, put Cartwright clean away and Wrexham were not in a mood now to spurn gifts of that kind. The roar of Welsh fervour was surpassed only by the one which greeted the news that Blyth Spartans had triumphed incredibly at Stoke and now face the prospect of travelling to Wales. In Wrexham they can be excused if they are licking their lips at the prospect of a place in the last eight.

WREXHAM: D. Davies, A. Hill, D. Adwyer, G. Davis, J. Roberts, M. Thomas, R. Shinton, M. Sutton, D. McNeill, G. Whittle, L. Cartwright.

NEWCASTLE: M. Mahoney, R. Blackhall, M. Barker, J. Nattrass, J. Bird, J. Blackley (sub T. Cassidy), S. Barrowclough, M. Burns, M. McGhee, A. Gowling, A. Kennedy.

Referee: C. N. Seel (Carlisle).

How Arsenal can surprise Liverpool's defence

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Defeats in league matches on Saturday reduced Liverpool and Arsenal's hopes of winning the championship to the point at which optimists falter. For Liverpool, who have been in the top three for the past six seasons, the sight of Nottingham Forest disappearing ahead of them was not expected. Arsenal hardly looked championship material when the season began, but progress has been swift, and, were it not for Forest, they may have gained the measure of the rest. Both clubs can still offer Forest a strong challenge in the League Cup, which reaches its semi-final round stage this week.

Forest go to Leeds for their first leg tie tomorrow, and tonight at Anfield, Liverpool, playing Arsenal, hope to avoid their second cup defeat by a London club this season, having lost to Chelsea in the FA Cup last month. Visiting Anfield is not quite as intimidating now that Liverpool's home record is no longer intact, but Saturday's league matches indicated that Arsenal may still have to be satisfied with a draw or low-scoring defeat. Admittedly, conditions then were unsatisfactory, yet there was nothing exciting about their forward play while Liverpool seemed to form many fine moves when being beaten at Coventry.

Liverpool rarely attain their best form without Heighway, who feeds Dalglish from the wing. He was absent on Saturday when he had hoped to play in a reserve team match to show that he had recovered from pneumonia. That game was cancelled and it may not be considered wise to thrust him straight back into a demanding cup tie. That being the case, the team will be unchanged.

Arsenal have to alter their team because Sunderland is cup tied. Stapleton, who has missed two matches with a twisted knee, is expected to play alongside Macdonald, who should be happier on firmer ground. If Brady can release some dividing through passes for Macdonald to chase, the Liverpool defence could again be caught on the turn. It may then depend on whether Macdonald can regain his finishing touch.

Home defeat for Liverpool would not be quite as demoralizing as it would for Leeds United tomorrow. Leeds would then have to go to Nottingham in a week's time knowing that they had to break Forest's unbeaten home record to reach Wembley. In November, Leeds beat Forest 1—0 at Elland Road, and they are particularly anxious to succeed now that they are no longer in the FA Cup and have fallen 10 points behind Forest in the First Division.

Blackpool dismiss Brown

Blackpool's manager, Allan Brown, was dismissed last night after a disagreement with the club chairman, Bill Cartmell. The row followed remarks made by the chairman during the weekend about Mr Brown's job being dependant on future results. The assistant manager, Jimmy Meadows, will take charge of team affairs until a new manager is appointed.

A director denied last night that Mr Brown had been dismissed because of the team's performances. He said the manager had been called into the board meeting to try and patch matters up but this had not succeeded. Mr Brown was phoned later at his home and told of the board's decision to dismiss him.

Leeds accept offer from Spurs

The Leeds United directors, meeting last night, decided to accept the offer from Tottenham Hotspur for Gordon McQueen, their Scottish international centre-back. It is understood that Spurs are prepared to pay £450,000 plus the £45,000 levy on the transfer.

Leeds have now firmly put McQueen, who sought a move, on the spot, but the player has already said that he has no intention of moving to London. He wants to join Manchester United, but their latest bid of £400,000 fell short of the Leeds valuation. He also said he did not want to move to a club outside the first division.

Jimmy Armfield, the Leeds manager, said: "It is now up to Tottenham to see if they can persuade McQueen to join them. As far as the club is concerned they have accepted the Spurs offer."

Trevor Francis, the England striker, wants to leave Birmingham City—but the club is, as always, determined to keep him at St Andrews. Francis has told Birmingham's managerial consultant, Sir Alf Ramsey, he is unhappy with the club, but he has not so far put a transfer request in writing.

Keith Coombs, the Birmingham manager, said: "There is no way Trevor Francis will be allowed to leave Birmingham."

City, however, may find it difficult to keep an unsettled player of Francis's potential and half a dozen clubs would be prepared to smash the British record transfer fee of £440,000 set by Liverpool for Celtic's Kenny Dalglish. Arsenal have long admired Francis and Everton would have no difficulty raising the cash to pair him with England and former Birmingham colleague, Latchford.

Palomino may meet former kick boxer

Las Vegas, Feb 6.—The World Boxing Council welterweight champion, Carlos Palomino, will defend his title against the Japanese veteran, Ryu Sorimachi, on Saturday but some people already are talking about future Palomino matches. Bob Arum, of Top Rank Inc, who is promoting the 28-year-old Palomino's fifth defence, said today he would like to stage a match between the 147-pound champion and WBC junior welterweight, Saensak Muangsurin, of Thailand.

"Palomino wants to fight as often as possible," Arum said. "We want him to go in March or April and then possibly in June against Muangsurin. Lope Sarreal has talked to me and to Jackie McCoy about the fight." Sarreal, a Filipino, manages the former kick boxer and McCoy is Palomino's manager.

There also has been speculation of a possible bout between Palomino and the undisputed lightweight champion, Roberto Duran, of Panama and talk of a possible contest against the World Boxing Association welterweight champion, José Cuevas, of Mexico.

"If there's enough money, we'd have to be interested", Mr McCoy said. "A Duran-Palomino fight would be a spectacular fight. Its the same with Cuevas. They'd have to put up a lot of money."

Sorimachi, of Tokyo, who has been a professional for 14 years, has failed in two tries at the world junior middleweight crown. He says he's 33 but record books show his age as 37. Palomino defended his title four times in 1977 and earned $360,000. He might want at least that much to meet Duran, Muangsurin or Cuevas.—UPI.

Rugby Union

A French flier takes wing against Ireland

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The international rugby championship moved two steps further last Saturday towards the final confrontation, in Cardiff on March 18, that most have foreseen. If it should come to pass, what an occasion it will be, with France seeking to become the first country since England (in the Wakefield era of 1923-24) to win the grand slam in successive seasons, and Wales in line for an unprecedented three triple crowns in a row.

France will be confident of registering their third win of the year, against Ireland in Paris on Saturday week. Wales, who were in action for the first time at Twickenham, still have two hurdles to jump—first against Scotland in Cardiff, where their opponents last achieved victory in 1962 (that was their only success in Wales since the war), and then against Ireland at Lansdowne Road. Some of the best Welsh teams have come unstuck in Dublin, so they will not be taking that visit lightly.

If there has been a lingering doubt about French capacity to come from behind—although their record in recent years has belied it—it must have been stilled for good and all at Murrayfield when they were 13 points adrift in the first half and still recovered to win an extremely exciting game. These days the French selectors do not believe in tinkering about with a successful combination—what selectors do?—but Jean-François Gourdon, brilliant runner that he is, has been so accident prone on his return to the international arena that it is no surprise to hear that he has been dropped.

For their game against Ireland, France's selectors have chosen a new cap in Louis Bilbao, from St Jean de Luz, who played in the successful B international against Wales in December and gave them plenty to think about. "A real flier", a Welsh informant tells me. "He plays rather like J. J. Williams."

It was Gourdon's defensive mistakes which set up the positions for Alan Old to drop two goals for England in Paris. It was his kick that David Shedden charged down for the first Scottish try last Saturday. His attempted obstruction of Andy Irvine did not matter greatly as Irvine scored, anyway, and Douglas Morgan converted the try. Cenydd Thomas surely would have awarded a penalty try if Irvine failed to get the touchdown.

It was in this incident that Irvine sustained a painful injury to his left shoulder, which obliged him, after a brief return to the field, to leave it for good and which may well have cost his side the game. He should know within a day or two whether he will be fit to play at Cardiff, where Scotland certainly need to be at full strength. Their team is expected to be announced tomorrow, and there might well be some changes in the backs. Ian McGeechan could revert to stand-off half, where he did so well against Wales last season. Alternatively, the selectors could bring in John Rutherford, a big lad from Selkirk, who played well in the B international against Ireland. The wing half, Shedden, happily is none the worse for the injury, severe concussion, he sustained against France.

As for Ireland, it would be an ironic twist if Michael Gibson should win his 63rd cap on a wing in Paris, only to see Bill McBride recalled from international retirement and holding on to his world record by appearing for the 64th time.

After two defeats, by France and Wales—making four in a row at the hands of these two countries—England will not be in action again until March 4, when they play the Calcutta Cup match at Murrayfield. The break, it is hoped, will give Fran Cotton and Peter Dixon time to prove their fitness.

Dixon's experience and authority inevitably were missed against the Welsh, although that is not to belittle a promising first appearance by Bob Mordell, who worked like a beaver. But, on the day, in conditions that were a great leveller, the absence of Cotton and Robin Cowling from the front row proved a more serious handicap. The more I think about it, the more I am inclined to believe that had these played, England's scrummage would have held firm and the result would have been different.

It might well have been different, too, if Old's boot had been available to kick England's goals. Again such observation is not intended to denigrate the man who replaced him at stand-off. John Horton's display was not immaculate, but he made a lively and promising start in testing circumstances.

For one who is a usually reliable kicker in defence, Michael Slemen, made more mistakes in this respect than he would have bargained for, but on the whole the selectors may decide to leave well alone behind the scrummage. There must surely, however, be some changes at forward. Cowling's serious shoulder injury has put him out for the season, so assuming Cotton's fitness, the selectors will have to decide whether to restore him to right-head in place of Michael Burton, or to bring him back on the other side of Peter Wheeler at the expense of Barry Nelmes.

The strongest front-row combination at the scrummage then available probably would be Cotton, Wheeler and Burton, in that order. But there is a growing suspicion that Burton is not quite the force he used to be in the tight, in which case Cotton could go in again on the right-hand side of the scrummage, with a new man chosen on the other. Colin White, the Gosforth loose-head, was the reserve prop for the Welsh game.

FRANCE (v Ireland): J.-M. Aguirre (Bagnères); L. Bilbao (St Jean de Luz), R. Berirenne (Bagnères), C. Belascain (Bayonne), J.-L. Averous (La Voulte); B. Vivies (Agen), J. Gallian (Toulon), J.-C. Skrela (Toulouse), J.-P. Bastiat (Dax, captain), J.-P. Rives (Toulouse), F. Haget (Agen), M. Palmié (Béziers), R. Pararemborde (Pau), A. Paco (Béziers), G. Cholley (Castres).

Tennis

Miss Navratilova breaks Mrs Cawley's sequence

Chicago, Feb 6.—The Czechoslovak-born Martina Navratilova came from behind to defeat Yvonne Cawley, of Australia, 6—7, 6—2, 6—2, in the final of the $100,000 Virginia Slims tournament here yesterday. It was the fourth tournament victory of the winter season for the American-based Miss Navratilova, who won $20,000 for the win, and a first defeat for Mrs Cawley in her last 30 matches. It was only the fifth time in 19 matches that Miss Navratilova had beaten Mrs Cawley.

Miss Navratilova broke Mrs Cawley's service in the fourth game of the opening set, but the Australian broke back immediately getting the winning point by forcing a backhand error by Miss Navratilova at the net.

Mrs Cawley took a quick 2—0 lead in the second set, breaking service when her opponent double-faulted. But Miss Navratilova broke back, winning the third game with a forehand passing shot and setting up a string of seven successive games.

Miss Navratilova forged a 4—2 lead in the final set and won the next two games for the match.

In the one-set match for third place, the third-seeded Betty Stove, of the Netherlands, rallied from a 4—1 deficit to overcome the fourth-seeded Virginia Wade, of Britain, 6—4, winning the match with a love game.

The tournament was the fifth of 12 this year on the Virginia Slims circuit.—AP.

Strong service of Gerulaitis too much for Newcombe

Richmond, Virginia, Feb 5.—Vitas Gerulaitis the second seed, beat John Newcombe, 6—3, 6—4, to end the Australian's hopes of the singles title in the tennis tournament here.

Newcombe, who was in semi-retirement over the past three years, was unable to break Gerulaitis's strong service and was beaten in one hour, six minutes.

One service break in each set was all Gerulaitis needed for the top prize of $30,000. Newcombe, who eliminated three seeds including the number one, Bjorn Borg of Sweden, collected $15,000.

Gerulaitis and Newcombe both held service for the first three games before Newcombe ran into trouble in the fourth game. Two blistering service returns by Gerulaitis took the score to 0—30 and Newcombe served a double-fault on break point.

Gerulaitis, who won the Australian title in December and the Italian last summer, needed three set points before he ended the first set. A forehand drive by Newcombe sailed over the baseline.

In the second set, the games went with service for the first eight games, although Newcombe twice had problems holding his service. Gerulaitis finally broke through in the ninth game when Newcombe served double-faults on the first and last points.—Reuter.

Rowing

Boat Race crews plump for matching boats

By Jim Railton

This year's Boat Race (March 25) will at least seem to start on one even keel. Oxford and Cambridge will row the 1978 Boat Race in almost identical British-made synthetic boats. Last year the personalities in the Boat Race almost took second place with speculations raging over the advantage or otherwise of their respective boats. Oxford rowed in a black synthetic racing shell—the first of a production line—aptly nicknamed "Black Beauty" and Cambridge in a wooden prototype.

For this year's race, the Oxford and Cambridge Presidents, Michelmore and Horton, almost have peas from the same pod. Both crews will row in a British Carbo-craft boat that built last year's boat. An improvement in technology has since last year resulted in a change of pigment of the boat from black to a silver grey. So perhaps this year's winning crew will happily christen their shell "The Silver Streak"—albeit that the Carbocraft company will swear that Oxford and Cambridge have received delivery of two "greyhounds" of equal speed.

The only difference in the two racing craft this year is one of natural bias. Oxford will have a dark blue canvas and in case you did not guess Cambridge have opted for light blue.

Oxford's president, Michelmore, a world lightweight champion and stroke of the 1977 Oxford crew, tells me he has a private wish "in becoming the first Australian Oxford president to row in a winning Oxford crew."

But Michelmore's immediate problem is to stay the course until March 25. He has a troublesome wrist which is presently strapped and there are many miles of stress and strain ahead before the race from Putney to Mortlake. Just to keep things level last year's Cambridge stroke, Clegg, came off two wheels and broke a thumb two weeks ago.

The Cambridge president, Horton, is charged to break Oxford's aim to chalk up their first three successive Boat Race wins for over a decade. Horton has a surplus of blues from last year's losing crew, together with a nucleus of the Goldie eight, who rowed Isis down during last year's mini-Boat Race. Out of this should gell in a vintage year a winning Boat Race crew.

At Oxford, Michelmore sees Isis's demise last year "as lack of leadership", but he must rely on at least three of the 1977 Isis crew to ensure a third successive win for Oxford. Apart from himself, Michelmore still has two of last year's Boat Race crew—Shealy, the American 1974 World Champion in eights, and Moran, a Canadian international.

However, Moran's long vacation over Christmas and resultant suspect fitness has already kept him out of the first boat for the first two weeks of term. Moran began to climb the ladder last week, gaining access to a bow seat and by the end of this week may secure a place in the engine room of the boat.

There is every hope of an exciting Boat Race this year, but perhaps that has been said all too often in recent years. Oxford will give some hint of potential when they meet the national training team eight on the Tideway this weekend. Cambridge have already enjoyed one successful sortie to the Tideway against one of Britain's leading clubs in Thames Tradesmen. But they will stay in wraps, competitively speaking, until their return to London at the end of the month.

Olympic Games

Montreal may seek to hold 1984 Olympic Games

Montreal, Feb 6.—Montreal, host to the 1976 Olympics, might seek the Games again for 1984 if the international committee should reject Los Angeles, Montreal's mayor, Jean Drapeau, said here.

The committee meet in Athens in May to consider plans by Los Angeles to stage the Games. The American city was the only applicant for the 1984 Games and is considered virtually certain to get them.

"I wouldn't want anyone to think that Los Angeles is not a proper candidate for the Games". Mr Drapeau said in a television interview yesterday. "But if after it meets to examine the Los Angeles dossier the IOC decides to extend the bidding period, not only Montreal but all interested cities could bid for the Games."

The number of nations which have signified their intention of competing in the Commonwealth Games in Edmonton in August is now 35. The latest acceptances of invitations to compete are from Ghana, Mauritius, Jamaica, India and Guyana.

The record turn-out for a Commonwealth Games was 42 nations at the Edinburgh Games in 1970. Thirty-eight countries competed in the last games in Christchurch in 1974. The organizers said latest information on ticket sales showed that 247,512 out of a total of 715,000 available had been sold up to January 6. The games start on August 3 and end on August 12.—Reuter.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 6, Colorado Rockies 3; Detroit Red Wings 4, Cleveland Barons 3; Buffalo Sabres 4, Washington Capitals 1; Toronto Maple Leafs 3, Boston Bruins 3.

WORLD ASSOCIATION: Indianapolis Racers 6, Birmingham Bulls 1; Winnipeg Jets 4, Edmonton Oilers 3.

Athletics

COAMO (Puerto Rico).—21,097 metres: 1, H. Rono (Kenya), 1-00-16.11; 2, W. Rodgers (US), 1-00-35.01; 3, S. Kimombwa (Kenya), 1-00-49.04; 4, D. Tibaduya (Colombia), 1-02-24.22; 5, J. E. de Jesus (Puerto Rico), 1-02-35.01; 6, R. Vega (Puerto Rico), 1-02-50.52; 7, C. Smead (US), 1-03-16.70; R. L. Viren (Finland), 1-40.05. Other British placing: 11, J. Dingwall, 1-55-18.

Cycling

ANTWERP: Six-day event (£6,000 three-day): 1, P. Sercu and R. Pijnen, Belgium, 127 points; 2, F. Moercken and D. Clark, (US), 2 R. Pijnen (Neth) and S. Allan (Australia), 3, Pararemborde (Fra) and A. Paco (Spain), 70 (seven laps behind).

Snooker

Fagan given a lesson at the table

John Pulman, a former world champion, handed out a lesson to Pat Fagan, the latest entrant in the professional game in the first round of the Masters snooker tournament, sponsored by Benson and Hedges, at the New London Theatre yesterday.

Pulman overcame Fagan's confident start to win the first round (best-of-seven frames match) 4—2. Fagan, a London-based Irishman who has already won the United Kingdom championship in his 18 months as a professional, became increasingly hesitant as the match progressed.

FIRST ROUND: J. Pulman beat Fagan (Pulman's scores first): 42—57, 57—50, 85—41, 62—69, 69—37.

Father and daughter both slap-happy

Buenos Aires, Feb 6.—Clau Casabianca, of Argentina, United States junior open tennis champion, was slapped on co by her father for playing a shot during the final of a tour ment yesterday. Miss Casabian went off in tears and retired lose the match, 1—6, 6—2, 7—6 Reuter.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)
Courmayeur	150	280	Good	Powder	Good	Fine
Excellent skiing conditions						
Davos	90	180	Good	Powder	Good	Snow
Excellent skiing everywhere						
Flaine	165	275	Good	Powder	Good	Snow
Heavy snow all day						
Lermoos	70	190	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud
Some bare patches						
Saas-Fe	100	215	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud
New snow on good base						
Sauze d'Oulx	85	150	Good	Varied	Good	Fine
Upper slopes crusty						
Seefeld	80	120	Good	Powder	Good	Snow
Good piste skiing						
Val d'Isère	200	390	Good	Powder	Good	Snow
Heavy snow all day						
Verbier	120	235	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud
Good skiing, poor visibility						
Wengen	85	140	Good	Powder	Good	Snow
Good skiing everywhere						

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C		Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
ITALY						San Martino	150	240	Good		
Abetone	150	190	Good	—	—	Selva	190	190	Good		
Bardonecchia	120	270	Good	—	—	Sestriere	180	280	Good		
Bormio	40	200	Good	—	—	Vipiteno	15	190	Good		
Canazei	70	300	Good	—	—	FRANCE:					
Cervinia	130	300	Good	—	—	Alpe d'Huez	300	600	Good	Snow	
Claviere	150	280	Good	—	—	Chamonix	210	250	Good	Cloud	
Corvara	150	180	Good	—	—	Courchevel	90	210	Good	Cloud	
Courmayeur	150	280	Good	—	—	La Clusaz	165	260	Good	Cloud	
Livigno	90	140	Good	—	—	Le Col Bier	190	190	Good	Cloud	
Madonna di C	180	320	Good	—	—	Le Deux Alpes	250	750	Good	Snow	
Marmolada	150	220	Good	—	—	Les Menuires	170	510	Good	Cloud	
Sansicario	150	270	Good	—	—	Megève	250	270	Good	Cloud	
Selva	150	270	Good	—	—	Méribel	90	210	Good	Cloud	
Sestriere	180	320	Good	—	—	St Gervais	110	260	Good	Snow	
Vipiteno	150	250	Good	—	—	Superdévoluy	160	250	Good	Snow	

Squash rac

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Aston cket

feats igh horses should be the a smounted for Awa e sake of the game

John Woodcock
t Correspondent
Feb 6

her or not Mr Packer's Series Cricket is active in ia next winter—and the are that in some form or will be—the performance e of the England side, due ober, has assumed great nce. On no other occasion ern times will they have a heavier responsibility or ss obviously capable of o.

has to be written on the that Amiss, Greig, Knott, ood and Woolmer will not he party. Although Greig a thoroughly bad season, th bat and ball, and Wool- palpably overweight (the ita ?) and Amiss has not articularly well, England will continue to be, much ker for being without any five.

to worry; we've got the re next season and they'll im. off ", the Australian alist says with no time er Packer. That is all il in theory, as it prob- uld be in practice if Eng- re better than they are. England's batting is so I have to tell them. we like it or not, the England side are nothing engaging to watch as the and it is how England ete as much as how suc- they are; that will matter alia next winter.

ting his long absence from land side, and the reasons here are two ways of look- boycott's influence on the

Referring again to the ins one meets, there are ho consider that as Eng- ptain next winter he would sset simply because the here love to hate him; knowing of the sort of ngland had in Karachi the y, when Boycott was cap- hem for the first time, say risk that happening in would be to play into er's hands. Before com- myself on that, I would ee Boycott in action in land, and gauge the full- Brearley's recovery.

clear-cut is the need for tors to resist the tempta- go for an old hand, like whose connexion with Mr lbeit as a coach, made his as Brearley's replacement harder to accept) and to someone younger (Radley d with a flair. As Randall gree, I expect, it is easier runs in Australia now India, where the wickets or in Pakistan, where they d, or in New Zealand, ey are green, or in Eng- here it has become such a ame, or even in West where the bowling can be ingly fast and short. is no longer the hardest the world in which to tsmen on, unless they have a Thomson and a harness together.

Mr Packer's programme Melbourne in November keting atmosphere has if anything, even less han it was then. The is dreadful, with the camp becoming more defensive and the estab- more resolutely aggres- pite of recent overtures he two sides, conducted at an intermediary level, they are both as entrenched as ever. Thanks to the Indians, and the unexpected discernment of the Australian public, and the failure of the Australian cricketers on Mr Packer's books, the circus has made a bad start; but that is far from saying that the big top is about to collapse.

You may be sure of certain things. Practically everyone play- ing for Mr Packer believes staunchly that there is nothing to compare with proper Test cricket, those who talked to David Hookes, when he came to the Adelaide Oval last week, were left in no doubt as to where his heart lay. The supernumeries, who are sent up country to play, are just serving out their days, sick and tired of what they are doing. If it is to be a fight to the death there can be no possible doubt who will win, and it will not be Mr Packer; not because of the sums he will lose, but because in time his supply lines will dry up. This is the opinion even of many of his supporters.

Endlessly there is talk of com- promise; particularly among the players and their friends, and the press and those they influence. Mr Packer's own intractable person- ality makes one more difficult. If he were to make himself scarce for a while there would be more chance of progress; but he is not that sort of man. Nor is Mr Parish, chairman of the Australian Cricket Board, of a conspicuously conciliatory nature.

Now is the time, though, for the board to make a move. They can bargain from a position of strength; they can cut down the bloodshed; they can cleanse the air. For the good of cricket something must be tried within the near future. It may mean a lot of dismounting from high horses; it is unlikely to lead to a return to the fold of many of the game's best players; but after this recent visit to Australia I feel that something must be tried—not for Mr Packer's sake but for cricket's.

If I sound like a hawk trans- formed into a dove, it is not so. But the misery has got to stop. If not, although Mr Packer will fade away, not enough will have been make out of him, except by a few individual cricketers. The solution may lie in allowing him access to the sponsorship and tele- vision coverage of some officially recognized one-day cricket, includ- ing a "night-time competition". It is going to be difficult to find an early answer; but it can only be done round a table, and to save the game from such indis- criminate use of bouncers and all the razzamatazz I saw at the Sydney Showground yesterday, it must be tried.

The registration committee of the Test and County Cricket Board will decide at a meeting at Lords on February 16 whether to allow the exchange of Surrey's 33-year- old fast bowler Geoffrey Arnold for Roger Knight, aged 31, a Sussex all-rounder.

The chairman of the respective counties agreed on the exchange in December, but cricket has always frowned on anything resembling a transfer market and it is by no means certain that it will go through.

Surrey await the decision before deciding on their captain for the coming summer.



Botham . . . scored 58 against Canterbury yesterday.

England poised for much-needed win

Christchurch, Feb 6.—Ian Botham, of Somerset, strengthened his chances of playing in the first Test match against New Zealand on Friday with an excellent all-round performance against Canterbury here today. He cap- tured three wickets as Canterbury slumped from their overnight score of 26 for no wicket to 144 all out, giving England a lead of 29.

With Boycott, the captain, nursing his bruised arm, England's batting again looked fragile when they started their second innings, but the 22-year-old Botham, who was not selected for the three Tests in Pakistan, scored an un- beaten 58. At the close on the second day of the three-day match England were 135 for four—164 runs ahead—and poised for a much-needed victory.

Ironically, Botham's chance to shine as a bowler came after Hendrick had dislocated a finger attempting a return catch. Hendrick started the Canterbury collapse, dismissing Barry Hadlee, the opening batsman, and Parker.

Coman, who scored 17 runs off Willis yesterday, fell to the War- wickshire fast bowler for 51. It was Coman's drive that injured Hendrick's finger, just as Hendrick was showing the form that might have won him a Test place. After- wards Ken Barrington, the manager, said that Hendrick and Boycott would be fit by Friday.

Botham seized on the mishap to his colleague to produce a fine spell of seam bowling with three for 28 off 11 overs. Willis was also back to his fiery best, with four for 46—an encouraging perform- ance for England.

When Botham came to the wicket England were struggling at 46 for three in their second innings. Randall and Miller opened the batting and neither looked at ease. Randall went for 23 to Boock, a leg-spin bowler, and Miller was caught in the slips off Congdon for 20.

Gatting, anxious to consolidate his Test chances, failed when he was stumped off Boock for one. Radley and Botham then shared in a fourth-wicket partnership of 73, which was dominated by Botham, who hit nine fours, including several huge pulls over midwicket.

Radley, who made 23 in nearly 100 minutes, failed to inspire con- fidence or improve his hopes of Test selection. Boycott, whose arm is still sore, said he was not un- duly worried by the injury, and was likely to bat tomorrow on the final day.

CANTERBURY: First innings

B. G. Hadlee, c Taylor, b Hendrick	4
P. G. Coman, c Taylor, b Willis	51
M. M. Parker, c Taylor, b Hen- drick	22
P. E. McEwan, c Boycott, b Botham	36
H. E. Congdon, c Radley, b Willis	3
D. W. Stead, c Old, b Willis ..	1
M. J. Boock, b Botham ..	4
R. J. Hadlee, c Old, b Willis ..	4
D. R. Hadlee, not out	8
W. Eddington, c Willis, b Botham	1
S. L. Boock, c Willis, b Old ..	0
Extras (b-1, l-b 5, n-b 4) ..	10
Total	144

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—26, 2—69, 3—104, 4—109, 5—127, 6—127, 7—131, 8—135, 9—143, 10—144.

BOWLING: Willis, 11—3—46—4; Hendrick, 8.6—1—23—2; Old, 7—2—21—1; Edmonds, 4—0—16—0; Botham, 11—5—28—3.

ENGLAND: First innings 173 (C. M. Old, 51; R. J. Hadlee 5 for 50)

Second innings

D. W. Randall, l-b-w, Boock ..	23
C. M. Major, c Parker, b Congdon	20
G. Fowler, b Stead ..	1
M. W. Gatting, st Ryan, b Boock	3
I. T. Botham, not out	58
R. W. Taylor, not out	4
Extras (b 2, l-b 2)	4
Total (4 wkts)	135

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—25, 2—45, 3—46, 4—119.

BOWLING: R. Hadlee, 5—0—42—0; D. Hadlee, 6—0—26—0; Boock, 15—5—54—2; Congdon, 7—1—10—1; Stead, 4—0—19—11.

Racing

Why O'Neill's enviable problem may be solved by Sea Pigeon

John O'Neill has received the jockey of the month award, given by Boringer, for January. During this period his 19 winners included two trebles and four doubles. The young Irishman has been riding like a man inspired as his resolute determination carries him irresis- tibly towards becoming the man to ride the fastest hundred winners in a season.

From a host of superb per- formances it is difficult to pick O'Neill's finest hour. His triumphant first appearance on the Champion hurdler, Night Nurse, has received the most publicity. But the impression of his victory on Netherton in the Shoveller's Novices Hurdle at Newcastle re- mains indelibly imprinted on the mind. I would not like to feel as exhausted as Netherton looked in the unsaddling enclosure after that race. Mrs Stanhope Joel's five- year-old is one of the gamest horses that ever looked through a bridle, but few men alive could have got Netherton home that afternoon. In direct contrast to that effort was O'Neill's sym- pathetic handling of the brilliant Sea Pigeon at Sandown Park on Saturday.

Michael Dickinson, Graham Thorner and Bob Champion all received honourable mentions. From Dickinson's 16 victories I go unhesitatingly for his handling of Gay Spartan in the Tote Northern Steeplechase at Haydock Park. The Sun Alliance Steeple- chase winner hated the fast ground. He was off the bridle from start to finish. His jumping in- evitably suffered and the way in which Dickinson sat as still as a mouse on Gay Spartan at his fences, urging him on only with his legs, commanded the utmost admiration. Thorner's power- packed finish on Rajmataj at San- down and Champion's miraculous recovery on Jan Stewer to beat Heidelberg at Windsor were the feats that earned these two votes.

O'Neill seems to hold all the trump cards in the Champion Hurdle. Provided that Paddy Broderick is not fit to ride, O'Neill will have the choice between Night Nurse and Sea Pigeon. With Sea Pigeon's victory over Beacon Light on Saturday, now may be the time to strike. Although Sea Pigeon was receiving 4lb, Pat Muldoon's gelding was having his first outing since his fall in the Colonial Cup, so he can do nothing but improve between now and Cheltenham.

Just as Night Nurse has twice thrashed Birds Nest in the great race, so did Sea Pigeon finish in front of Beacon Light last year. Yesterday Ladbrokes were offer- ing 11-8 against either Peter Easterby or Bob Turnell winning the Champion. Current form certainly suggests that these odds against the Yorkshire stable represent good value.

Personally, I would rather have more on Night Nurse than a good saver on Sea Pigeon. Sources close to the stable said yesterday that unless the ground rides fast at the National Hunt festival, O'Neill would definitely opt for Night Nurse. Sea Pigeon is a different class to Night Nurse on the flat and indeed might well beat him over hurdles in any race except the championship itself. In that always desperate duel from the second-last hurdle at Cheltenham, Night Nurse's rugged hunting qualities may give him his third crown on Wednesday, May 15.

Rumours were flying around London yesterday that O'Neill was coming south on Saturday to ride Peterhof for Fulke Walwyn in the Schweppes Gold Trophy. Peter- hof's odds were cut from 33-1 to 20-1 with William Hill after back- ing in their northern offices. How- ever, Walwyn confirmed that Kevin Mooney would be on the 1976 Triumph Hurdle winner. O'Neill will probably go to Catterick Bridge, as at this stage winners are more important to the Champion elect than money.

I understand that there have been excuses for Peterhof's re- cent disappointing runs. Now re- ported to be on the road to re- covery, there could be worse out- siders for Saturday's perennial puzzle.

All the big money yesterday for the Schweppes was for Comedy of Errors and Dramatist. If Comedy of Errors finds last year's form he will be hard to beat. But there must be some doubt about this at the age of 11. Dramatist looks a good bet to finish in the first four. The 8-1 still available with Hills should be taken as the way things are going, Dramatist looks like starting favourite to give Walwyn his second triumph in this controversial event.

I have every respect for Kybo, who has been specially trained for this race by Josh Gifford. I am also well aware that the records show that only two horses weighted at over 11st, Le Vermon- tois and Persian War, have won this race. But few horses of Dramatist's class have taken part since that epic finish in 1968, when the first five horses home, Persian War, Major Rose, Sempervivum, Stubbs II and Black Justice all carried 11st 7lb or over.

Dramatist has all the qualifica- tions required apart from the dis- advantage of his hefty burden. He goes well in the mud, has plenty of speed and above all the stamina that will stand him in good stead.

At Sedgfield today O'Neill can continue to blaze his trail of suc- cess by capturing both divisions of the Ryhope Novices Hurdle for Peter Easterby on Qualnz and the course winner, Jason.

Fixture list begins to get back to normal

Drier weather has put a tem- porary stop to the spate of National Hunt cancellations.

Today's Sedgefield card was given the go-ahead by the clerk of the course, Kit Egerton, early yesterday. "The frost has gone, there's a drying wind and every prospect of racing. The going is heavy."

No problems are envisaged at either of tomorrow's two fixtures —Haydock Park and Fontwell Park. No inspection is planned at Haydock unless there is a re- peat of the weekend downpour. Fontwell's clerk, Derek Hubbard, reports the course drying out well. "Unless the weather goes back on us there should be no difficul- ties."

Sex equality for horses

A new £6,000 sponsored flat race is for the first time to take account of the performance of a horse's dam. To be run at York in September, the Gilbey Bicen- tenary Oaks Futurity will be for two-year-old fillies and run over seven furlongs. Entries must be "by a stallion or out of a mare that was a winner of a race of one and a quarter miles or over".

Prolific Piggott

Kuala Lumpur, Feb. 6.—Lester Piggott was in brilliant form at the two-day weekend race meeting here, landing a treble and a double. His treble on Saturday was his second in as many racing days on the Malaysia-Singapore circuit.

STATE OF GOING (official): Sedge- field: Heavy; Haydock Park (tomor- row): Steeplechase course: Good to Soft: Hurdles course: Soft; Fontwell Park (tomorrow): Heavy.

Sedgefield programme

1.45 SEAHAM HARBOUR HURDLE (Handicap: £354: 2m).

6	b32210	Likely Boy (D), (B. Denton), D. Yeoman, 5-11-6 .. R. Brown 5
7	31142-0	Seaton Sands (C-D) (M. Kennedy), J. A. Turner, 7-11-6 .. K. McCauley
9	02	Bell's Lad (H. St Quinton Jun), E. Carter, 8-11-5 M. Lowry 3
11	0000	Abbey Style (A. Brisbourne), Brisbourne, 7-11-1 M. Brisbourne
13	000322	Roiss (D) (W. Chapman), D. Chapman, 9-10-13 .. M. Barnes
15	4-00	French Bridge (C-D) (P. Burke), Burke, 7-10-10 .. K. Gray
16	0-00	Red Sales (T. Craig), Craig, 8-10-5 .. M. Banks 7
17	0000	Maden (C. Gamz), R. Whitaker, 5-10-2 .. S. Charlton 3

9-4 Seaton Sands, 11-4 Bell's Lad, 7-2 Roiss, 4-1 Likley Boy, 10-1 French Bridge, 12-1 others.

2.15 RYHOPE HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o novices: £433: 2m)

201	000	Captain Peldark (J. Wilshire), F. Dever, 11-0 Mr A. Fowler 7
203	000p3	Henley Fair (Mrs D. Whitaker), C. Richards, 11-0 D. Goulding
204	0344	King Flush (Mrs P. Mitchell), Herbert Jones, 11-0 .. R. Barry
205	322420	Milk River (Mrs I. Cheesbrough), W. A. Stephenson, 11-0 .. R. Collins
206	0	Miss Pond (P. Irvine Ltd), T. Craig, 11-0 .. M. Banks 7
209	34	Qualnz (C. Prosser & Co Ltd), M. H. Easterby, 11-0 .. J. J. O'Neill
211	0	Rhac (H. Gould), M. W. Easterby, 11-0 .. T. Tinkler
213	000	Simon Deal (J. Manners), C. Lamb, 11-0 .. R. Lamb
215	0	Warmspuns Joy (Mrs S. Cockrill), R. Stubbs, 11-0 T. Enright
216	pp00	Whistlers Princess (H. Ford), Ford, 11-0 .. P. J. Kelly

13-8 Qualnz, 7-2 Rhac, 5-1 King Flush, 6-1 Henley Fair, 13-2 Milk River, 14-1 Simon Deal, 16-1 others.

2.45 HORDEN STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £821: 2½m)

302	3p-3211f	Cromwell Road (C) (Mrs C. Berry), K. Oliver, 8-12-0 R. Barry
303	3-20223	Meteorologist (D) (J. Turner), J. A. Turner, 9-11-8 .. K. McCauley
306	120-032	Sharagoen (C-D) (E. Roberts), A. Dickinson, 9-11-0 .. M. Dickinson
309	4243F1	Supreme Sail (D) (V. Thompson), Thompson, 7-10-4 .. Mr J. Walton
310	110-042	Fine Talk (Mrs E. Ingham), B. Wilkinson, 9-10-3 A. Harrison 7
311	P-304p2	Sparkle Again (C-D) (C. Lamb), Lamb, 12-10-1 .. R. Lamb
312	1f3f1p	Golden Express (F. White), J. Dodds, 9-10-1 .. J. J. O'Neill
313	00	Lack (J. Henderson), M. W. Easterby, 8-10-0 .. C. Tinkler

2-1 Sharagoen, 100-30 Fine Talk, 9-2 Supreme Sail, 11-2 Golden Express, 7-1 Cromwell Road, 12-1 Meteorologist, 14-1 others.

3.15 SOUTH SHIELDS STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £820: 3m 250yd)

402	3-0011f	Angel Clare (S. Hardey), A. Dickinson, 7-11-0 M. Dickinson
404	f24242	King Coe (G. Rentison), Rentison, 9-10-10 .. Mr P. Cragga 5
406	204023	Scorton Boy (C-D) (Mrs W. Shaw), Denys Smith, 9-10-8 .. A. Dickman
407	30021p	Francophile (C-D) (S. Powell), C. Lamb, 13-10-6 .. R. Lamb
408	124022	Soutra (C) (W. Lockey), B. Wilkinson, 10-10-6 .. D. Atkins
409	0-21221	Blaze Lady (C-D), J. Richardson, T. Barron, 12-10-4 K. Gray
410	002314	Forest Guard (G. Hickey), Richards, 7-10-0 .. D. J. Goulding
412	01020-p	Bottler's Neck (C-D) (Mrs K. Ingham), S. Norton, 8-10-0 .. G. Graham 5

11-4 Scorton Boy, 7-2 Forest Guard, 4-1 Angel Clare, 5-1 King Coe, 15-2 Soutra, 8-1 Blaze Lady, 12-1 others.

3.45 MARDEN STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £693: 2m)

502	pp00	Big Fred (D. Ross), S. Nesbitt, 7-11-2 .. S. Sayles 7
504	000	Chalknock (K. Kelsall), S. Norton, 7-11-2 .. G. Graham 3
505	b000-0	Choral Prince (G. Sloan), C. Fairbairn, 6-11-2 Mr G. Sloan
506	100000-	Doctor Wit (Mrs O. Fowler), F. Dever, 6-11-2 Mr A. Fowler 7
507	44-	Happy Boy II (G. Renilson), Renilson, 11-11-2 Mr P. Cragga 5
508	0004-03	Illecanus (W. Allchison), G. Fairbairn, 7-11-2 .. A. Phillips
509	2-30240	Ingham (S. Nesbitt), Nesbitt, 6-11-2 .. J. J. O'Neill
511	f00044-	Old Policy (Mrs A. Collins), J. Dodds, 7-11-2 .. S. Charlton 5
513	00f303	Village Dusky (F. Oates), Denys Smith, 6-11-2 A. Dickman
515	0000	Buckville (W. A. Stephenson), Stephenson, 5-10-7 G. Faulkner
516	u	Crichton Castle (G. McGuinness), T. Craig, 5-10-0 .. Mr D. Shaw 7

13-8 Ingham, 9-4 Illecanus, 11-4 Village Dusky, 10-1 Buckville, 14-1 Doctor Wit, 16-1 others.

4.15 RYHOPE HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o novices: £435: 2m)

601	0f0214	Bobby Kempinski (D) (A. Wilson), E. Collingwood, 11-10 .. A. Flint 5
602	4301	Jason (C-D) (R. Spencer), M. H. Easterby, 11-10 J. J. O'Neill
603	0100	Laz (C-D) (N. Chamberlain), W. A. Stephenson, 11-10 .. G. Faulkner
604		Billy Rajan (Mr J. Burgess), C. Lamb, 11-0 .. R. Lamb
605		Chevlot Star (G. Renilson), Renilson, 11-0 .. Mr P. Cragga 5
610	0f3	Kit's Future (C. Foster), T. Fairhurst, 11-0 .. C. Fairhurst 3
612	00033	Merganser (G. Kirk), M. W. Easterby, 11-0 .. C. Tinkler
617		Zagabe (Mrs A. Collins), J. Dodds, 11-0 .. S. Charlton 5

6-4 Jason, 3-1 Merganser, 9-2 Bobby Kempinski, 7-1 Kit's Future, 8-1 Laz, 16-1 others.

Sedgefield selections

By Our Racing Staff

1.45 Bell's Lad. 2.15 Qualnz. 2.45 Supreme Sail. 3.15 SOUTRA is specially recommended. 3.45 Illecanus. 4.15 Jason.

Badminton

Indonesia will not compete in WBF event

Jakarta, Feb 6.—Indonesia will not compete in the World Badminton Federation (WBF) championships in Hongkong later this month, an Indonesian Badmin- ton Association official said today.

The association's chairman, Raden Soediriman, said the decision was taken on the basis of a recent call by the president of the interna- tional Badminton Federation (IBF), Soellan Mohlin, to IBF members not to take part in the Hongkong tournament.

Mr Mohlin said the IBF would not recognise the WBF competi- tion and those competing in it would be banned from taking part in IBF tournaments including the Thomas Cup, the UBER Cup and the All-England championships. The breakaway WBF was set up by a group of eastern nations who wished China to be affiliated with

Rugby League

Signings beat deadline with minute to spare

Three signings were completed with a minute left to the noon deadline for Challenge Cup regis- trations at Rugby League head- quarters, Leeds, yesterday.

York paid a club record fee of £10,00 0for Morgan, the 21- year-old Keighley winger, and Salford signed Rule, the 25-year- Rugby Union club. Rule has old stand-off half from the Sale played for Cheshire. The third signing was by Blackpool Borough for Fairhurst, the Leigh stand-off at a fee of £1,000.

The transfer forms from the earlier deal involving Fiddler, from Bramley to Leigh for £5,500, were lodged at League head- quarters with half an hour to go the TBF in place of Taiwan.

Golf

Prize for Green in play-off

Honolulu, Feb 6.—Hubert Green won the Hawaiian open golf tour- nament here yesterday in a sud- den-death play-off with Bill Kratzert. After the pair had tied in the tournament with totals of 274 (14 under par) Green won the first prize of $50,000 prize at the second sudden-death hole.

Both golfers had par figures for the first hole and both were bunkered at the second. Green holed a seven-foot putt to snatch a par but Kratzert missed from five feet and had to be content with second prize of $28,500.

LEADING SCORES: 274: H. Green 69, 66, 68, 71; W. Kratzert, 70, 67, 69, 68. 275: H. Irwin 69 70 67 69; M. Morley 68, 73, 69, 66; R. Wynn, 67, 69 71, 68. 276: G. Littler 68, 73, 69, 70. 277: W. Casper, 71, 70 65 71; Juan Rodriguez, 72, 68, 67, 70.

Peter McEvoy, the British ama- teur champion from Copt Heath, Birmingham, is the only golfer given a plus two handicap by the English Golf Union this year. There are two other players bet- ter than scratch: Peter Deeble, of Alnmouth, and Michael Kelley, of Scarborough, who are both plus one.

THE CHARTERED SURVEYOR

A Special Report in THE TIMES

On March 8th the Queen will officially open the newly refurbished headquarters of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors in Great George Street, Westminster.

To mark this historic occasion The Times is to publish a Special Report on the Chartered Surveying profession which will appear on March 21st.

Among the various aspects of the profession which will be discussed in the Report are the following:

— the role of the Chartered Surveyor in the national economy and the profession's service to society as a whole.
— the career opportunities in Chartered Surveying including the facilities available for training.
— the history of the R.I.C.S. and the significance of its im- proved headquarters.
— the implications of the proposed new legislation for estate agents and Chartered Surveyors.
— the involvement of surveyors in the exploitation of natural resources, the extraction of North Sea oil and the major construction programmes in the Middle East.

Clearly this Special Report will be of great interest and value to all those involved with the Chartered Surveying pro- fession whether surveyors themselves or those in related disciplines and as such represents an ideal opportunity for advertisers who wish to reach these groups.

If you wish to take advantage of this Special Report, please contact:

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New Printing House Square,
Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ.

Telephone: 01-837 1234, Ext. 7126. Telex: 264971.

ble strokes put Australians in trouble

a, Feb 6.—An Australian ed to 58 for five wickets o the World XI's total close of play on the of their two-day World ntry cup cricket final y.

reig, the captain, and an, of Pakistan, each wickets as the Austra- to feeble shots. John Derek Underwood bol- World team's score with last-wicket partnership. eight boundaries in his in 56 minutes. They ther after Asif Iqbal dismissed for 69. ook three early wickets e dismissed three middle nen, but the World XI op from the start. outh African, Barry and Amiss, both wear- ive headgear, put on 38 ee caught Richards for 28 on the deep fine leg boundary off Pascoe. Pascoe also claimed the wicket of Amiss for 20, the wicketkeeper, Robinson, diving to his right to scoop up a difficult catch.

The big disappointment in the Australian attack was Lillee, who finished with one for 77 off 12 overs. Australia, with plenty of time to score the 254 runs for victory in this 75-over match, again showed a distressing lack of appli- cation. Snow took the wicket of Marsh for seven and Imran and Greig did more damage.

WORLD XI

B. Richards, c Lillee, b Pascoe	28
D. L. Amiss, c Robinson, b Pascoe	20
R. Woolmer, b Lillee ..	15
Zaheer Abbas, c Marsh, b Pascoe	35
Asif Iqbal, st Robinson, b Bright	69
Mushtaq Mohammad, c Robinson, b Malone ..	2
*A. W. Greig, lbw b Malone ..	7
Imran Khan, c Hookes, b Malone	17
†A. P. E. Knott, c Malone, b G. Chappell	1
J. Snow, c and b G. Chappell ..	42
D. L. Underwood, not out ..	19
Extras (w 1, n-b 2)	3
Total	253

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—58, 2—56, 3—88, 4—116, 5—134, 6—144, 7—179, 8—190, 9—196, 10—253.

BOWLING: Lillee, 13—1—77—1; Pascoe, 13—1—58—3; Malone, 12—2—62—3; G. Chappell, 9—3—20—2; Bright, 7—1—32—1.

AUSTRALIAN XI

†R. W. Marsh, c Greig, b Snow	11
I. C. Davis, c Zaheer, b Greig ..	7
T. Chappell, c Richards, b Imran Khan	7
*G. S. Chappell, not out ..	11
R. Edwards, c Greig, b Imran Khan	10
D. Hookes, c Richards, b Greig	7
R. Robinson, not out ..	1
Extras (w 1, l-b 3)	4
Total (5 wkts)	58

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—9, 2—26, 3—28, 4—42, 5—52.

R. Bright, M. Malone, D. K. Lillee, L. Pascoe to bat.

BOWLING (to date): Imran Khan, 7—1—32—2; Snow, 5—0—12—1; Greig, 4—1—9—2; Underwood, 1—0—1—0; Reuter.

Stevenson to join Hampshire for three years

Hampshire are to sign Keith Stevenson, Derbyshire's 27-year- old medium fast bowler, on a three-year contract. He failed to agree terms with Derbyshire at the end of last season and has seized on the move as a chance to establish himself to first-class cricket.

Stevenson had often been deprived of a place in the Derby- shire side because of the presence of two England men, Michael Hendrick and Alan Ward.

Stevenson recorded his best figures, seven for 68, against Warwickshire last season, although he has taken 98 wickets since making his first appearance in 1974.

KINGSTON: Shell Shield: Jamaica 506 for 9 dec (R. Austin 127, E. Williams 96, M. Foster 5 for 101); Guyana 262 for 7 (F. Bacchus 103).

:nnis

h of loyalties keeps glas away from home

Douglas, the 22-year- d number one, is to English closed table mpionships later this ause of a clash of Douglas, who on Sun- ted a fine performance the men's singles title lish championships, is the German profes- le team PSV Borussia

he English dates first everything fitted, but n a change", Douglas have to play for my natch on the Wednes- urday of the week of nships."

it the top of the Ger- having played 12 of tches, and as Douglas has already missed two of those, he cannot afford to drop any more. "I have to remember that without the money I earn in Ger- many, I would find it difficult to keep going", Douglas said. He had to give up the chance of playing in the recent European top twelve tournament because of a neck injury.

Douglas's return to action in Cardiff proved a revelation. He climaxed his success in the singles with victories over two Chinese. Showing uncanny speed and skill, he beat Wang Chien-ciang, 11—21, 21—17, 21—11, 21—12, in the semi-final round and underlined his exciting form by beating Yang Chuan Ning 19—21, 22—20, 21—10, 21—16 in the final.

players miss a date

iersley, the European nd the second-ranged are missing from am for the European le tennis match in Thursday.

nitted because he is Cambridge University mmersley is allowed r a spell of intense activity culminating in her winning the European top 12 tournament.

Max Crimmons, of Surrey, recently ranked number three, makes his first appearance in the European League.

ENGLAND: D. Douglas (Warwick- shire), N. Jarvis (Cleveland), M. Crimmons (Surrey), Miss C. Knight (Cleveland), Miss L. Howard (Surrey).

Rackets

Cheer for long trousers from older brigade

By Our Rackets Correspondent

Mark Nicholls, the Army champion, won and his younger brother, Paul, who is also joining the Army lost in the amateur rackets singles championship at Queen's Club yesterday. The brothers, who play for Cambridge University, won the schools doubles championship for Malvern in 1974. Richard Bridgeman, one of the very few players still to wear long white trousers, raised a cheer from the older brigade by beating Andrew Crawley in five games.

The elder Nicholls had to pull his game together before beating Christopher Ohlson by 17—14, 5—15, 15—10, 15—5 and was in such a hurry in the fourth game that the loser was forced to adopt the tactic used by Guillermo Vilas against Jimmy Connors in the recent Masters tennis championship in New York. As Connors prepared to serve Vilas held up his hand and moved away indica- ting he was not ready. So did Ohlson.

Apart from the last game this was a ragged match. In the first three Nicholls mistimed badly especially on the volley and half volley. He failed to keep the ball- low and down the walls and served erratically. Ohlson, less of a natural player made the most of his resources and what was given to him to reach 14—12 in the first game. Where he was thwarted when Nicholls putting him out with a hefty forehand produced an overhead service that momentarily deceived him.

Ohlson won the second game without much effort and was on the heels of his rival in the third until Nicholls, having put one game point on the board, ended it with a winning forehand. Nicholls was at his most assertive and aggressive in the fourth game but beef is not necessarily enough in this game and his defence under stress remains questionable. David Jenkins was too sound a player for Paul Nicholls winning by 15—10, 15—8, 15—4 without being in trouble after recovering from 1—9 in the first game. Bridge- man's win over Crawley could partly be explained by the fact that the loser had just returned from a skiing holiday and had snow not only on his boots but in his eyes as well. Yet it was much to Bridgeman's credit that he could win a close final game against a much younger opponent.

FIRST ROUND: P. C. Nicholls beat A. N. W. Beason 15—6, 15—10, 15—13; R. L. O. Bridgeman beat A. H. Crawley 15—12, 5—15, 2—15, 15—8, 15—4.

SECOND ROUND: M. W. Nicholls beat C. M. Ohlson 17—14, 5—15, 15—10, 15—6; D. C. Jenkins beat P. C. Nicholls 15—10, 16—8, 15—4.

World Cup preparation

Bombay, Feb 6.—Pakistan's hockey team arrived here by air today for the first two of four international matches against India. The first will be played here on February 9 and the second in Bangalore on February 12. Both teams, now preparing for the World Cup starting in Buenos Aires on March 18, will then go to Pakistan for the other two matches.—Agence France-Presse.

Training at Marlow

England's hockey selectors have chosen 23 players for a training weekend at Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre, Marlow, on Saturday and Sunday. Matches against Berkshire, Surrey and Hertfordshire have been arranged.

ENGLAND PARTY: D. C. Aldridge, P. J. B. Barbour, R. J. Barker, R. H. Brookman, B. J. Cotton, G. J. Evans, G. D. Featherstone, G. N. Francis, P. G. Freitas, J. C. French, N. Hughes, J. A. Hurst, S. S. Khehra, S. R. L. Lord, A. K. McCann, I. S. McGlen, N. Mallett, B. S. Saini, N. R. Saithbila, R. W. Smith, L. C. B. Taylor, L. A. Thomson, D. B. Whitaker.

:ecord

Icing

EACH: 24 hours: 1. R. est Germany), A. Hezz- nds), P. Gregg (US), , 680 laps, 108.743 rbour (US), J. Ruther- Schurti (Lichtenstein), 650 laps: 3, D. Febles A. Poole (GB) Porsche laps: 4, S. Fernandez J. Paul (US), P. Porsche Carrera, 657 nter (West Germany), (West Germany), est Germany), Turbo aps: 6, S. Earle (US), R. Knoop (US), Porsche Carrera, 652 laps: 7, G. Belcher (US), A. Holbert (US), D. Bundy (US), Turbo Porsche, 632 laps: 9, J. Morton (US), R. Carradine (US), Fer- rari-Daytona, 629 laps: 9, P. Gregg (US), C. Ballot-Lena (France), B. Frisselle (US), Turbo Porsche, 601 laps; 10, F. Romero (Venezuela), E. Soto (Venezuela), R. Beloff (US), Porsche 911. Other British placing: 68, D. Hobbs (England), R. Petersen (Sweden), Turbo BMW 3201.

Tennis

NORTH LITTLE ROCK: R. Stockton beat B. Pfister, 6—4, 6—3 (retired).

Motion clears way for broadcasts of proceedings to start after Easter: expert advice available

House of Commons

Mr William Price, Parliamentary Secretary, Privy Council Office (Rugby, Lab), opened the debate on broadcasting of the Commons proceedings by moving a motion to appoint a select committee on sound broadcasting, with power to appoint persons with expert knowledge either to supply information not readily available or, to elucidate matters of complexity relating to the matters referred to them.

He said that there had been some criticism of the delay in introducing broadcasting, particularly in *the light of the failure to* reach a decision last time it was debated.

I should make clear that I do not seek (he said) to blame anybody if say that efforts are being made to put off broadcasting yet again.

Perhaps for the first time I was *in agreement with The Times* editorial this morning.

The Times had been one of the critics, but they said there would be an opportunity for the House to pronounce on the idea of a broadcasting unit (contained in an *amendment* to be moved later) which was neither a frivolous nor a wrecking proposition.

Many MPs had been placed in difficulty on the last occasion because although they were not opposed to broadcasting, they could not vote for it without parliamentary oversight.

All I hope (he said) is that we come to a decision, whatever that decision may be, which will enable broadcasting to begin after Easter.

That is the timetable we envisage. Since the last debate I have endeavoured to find a compromise which will be acceptable to most MPs.

In today's motion the select committee's right to report to the House at any time was made more specific.

They had put a limit on the life of the select committee until the end of next session of Parliament and he was asking the House to put the select committee recommendation to the test, but not on a final and permanent basis.

He recognized that they were on *fresh ground and he was not* attempting to guarantee that the Government had got it absolutely right. The select committee could not be instructed to report at the end of approximately 18 months, but he would be surprised if it did not want to do so.

If MPs set up a joint select committee they ought to leave it to the committees to appoint officers and fix its terms of reference. The Commons had to come to a decision, not on principle because that had been decided, but on the narrow but important issue of how to protect the interests of Parliament.

Television and radio coverage of their proceedings was remarkably well balanced and objective, and had been for many years. Fleet *Street had a good* deal to learn from the broadcasting authorities.

If television were to come into the House that would be a matter to which the House would want to give careful consideration. This was not a way in for television *without oversight.* The Government were suggesting a trial period. The matter could be kept under constant review and at the appropriate time it could be reviewed. If changes should be made he would not hesitate to recommend them to the House.

Mr Wyn Roberts (Conway, C) said the line between entertainment, information and news programmes was not as clear as was often supposed. Material could be used out of context to the detriment of the House and MPs. There was a need for *continuing vigilance.* A select committee was necessary.

Mr Phillip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab), speaking to an amendment which would charge the select committee with appointing a manager of broadcasting operations, said he refuted any suggestion that such a manager would be an instrument of censorship.

The function of the manager would be to supervise the preparation of the signal supplied to broadcasting organizations and the compilation of the records of broadcasting material retained by the House of Commons.

Much of the material would be broadcast over and over again later, edited and reedited and used in snippets. There must be a *master* version of what had been said in the House, against which any such broadcasts could be compared.

Mr John Rathbone (Lewes, C) said he was still unconvinced of the need for a parliamentary unit. It could postpone broadcasting even further. It could require extra staff and be an unnecessary expense on the Exchequer, considering the good offer of the BBC to take on the task.

Mr. William Molloy (Ealing, North, Lab) said ordinary people would be pondering why it was taking so long when all they wanted to do was to switch on their wireless to listen to a debate. He would support Mr. Whitehead's amendment.

If there was any suggestion of *censorship or editorial control, as* some had predicted in the media, there would be the biggest row and bust-up the House had seen. The people who had made the suggestion would be the ones who would make their contribution to smash such a thing before it became a reality.

Mr Robert Cooke, for the Opposition (Bristol, West, C), said that MPs were concerned that the proposed broadcasting should be of the highest quality and represent fairly the work of Parliament. The BBC, or IBA if it were responsible, would be only the nominal copyright holders. If desired, there could be no difficulty in vesting the copyright in the House.

He hoped that given the chance the House would take another step forward towards sound broadcasting of a balanced picture of the work of Parliament.

Mr William Price said that if Mr Whitehead's amendment were accepted they would be left with one body, the broadcasters, having already been given power to originate the signal.

A manager of broadcasting operations would supervise origination of the signal. It would lead to friction, duplication and extra expense. As things stood, copyright would still remain with the originator of the signal, the BBC.

An amendment to appoint a manager of the broadcasting operations was rejected by 64 votes to 53—Government majority, 11. An amendment to set up a broadcasting unit was rejected by 68 votes to 49—Government majority, 19. The Government motion was agreed to.

Deficit in invisible trade with EEC

Invisible exports were important in trade with the EEC and it was worrying that over the last four years a surplus on invisible trade with the EEC of £374m had been turned into a deficit of £160m, Mr Michael Meacher, Under Secretary for Trade, said at question time.

Mr Hugh Dykes (Harrow, East, C) had asked what figures the Secretary of State estimated for the trade deficit with other EEC member states in the second half of 1977, compared with the first half and the first and second halves of 1976.

Mr Meacher (Oldham, West, Lab)—In the four half-year periods, beginning with the first half of 1976 our crude trade deficits with the rest of the EEC have been £1,041m, £1,100m, £1,017m and £985m respectively.

Mr Dykes—Now the trend is going the other way is it not understandable that the anti-EEC forces are silent—(Laughter)—on the question they kept raising a year ago on the persistent and uncontrollable deficit? (Interruptions.)

Does it not show that the deficit with EEC countries is a factor which has to be taken into account now that it is declining, like that elsewhere, and that is happening against the background of a higher rate of trade with other EEC *member states?*

Mr Meacher—There has certainly been an improvement, but whether it can be called more than marginal is a matter of opinion. The overall deficit is still of the order of £2,000m and I think there still has to be considerable improvement in that figure.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby, Lab)—Invisible exports are an important part of the trade balance with the EEC and other parts of the world. Supervision of *the securities market* and other City institutions might play a large part in that balance.

Would he not agree that we should have a debate on any new method of supervising the securities market and other City institutions before any agreements between the Department of Trade and the Bank of England are finalized?

Mr Meacher—The matter of a debate is for the Leader of the House (Mr Foot). It is an important matter in trade with the EEC and it is certainly worrying that over the past four years a surplus on invisible trade with the EEC of £374m has been turned into a deficit of £160m.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab)—Would he agree as far as we continue to run a deficit of £1,500m on manufactures with other EEC countries that we are using North Sea revenue to subsidize and develop manufacturing industries of our major competitors?

Mr Meacher—If this country was to leave the EEC tomorrow it is fallacious to believe that this large deficit would disappear. The change which would occur is a matter for conjecture.

There is also a large deficit with the rest of the world of £1,600m for last year and his arguments apply equally there as well.

Soviet aims in Africa: Admiral's blue water school of thought

The sum of the present Russian threats to the West amounted to loss of control of the Cape and the Indian Ocean which would cut the world in half and give Russia control over Europe, Africa and Asia, except for China, Rear Admiral M. C. [illegible]-Giles (Winchester, C) said.

He moved that "The House regrets the failure of the British Government to recognize the threat to world peace posed by Soviet adventurism in Africa", and said that the issue had more *bearing on the eventual survival of* Britain and the West than many internal domestic issues, but if he had introduced a debate on *The Pencourt File* the benches would have been packed to capacity.

There was hardly any part of *Africa where the Russians had not* got a finger in the pie, stirring up trouble wherever they went.

There must be a lesson in Somalia about the reliability of Russia as an ally, since only today they had read of Russian generals leading *Ethiopia against Somalia.*

The Cubans must be recognized as the Soviet Union's foreign legion, but not a finger had been lifted in the West to stop their invasion of Angola.

Terrorists in Africa as well as *elsewhere in the world (he said)* know they can look to Moscow for their weapons, know-how and violence.

There were a number of major threats to Britain and the West from Soviet strategy. The first was the risk of denial of raw materials; the second the strategic threat, particularly to the gulf oil; and thirdly the denial to the West of a large part of its uranium supplies.

All these threats amounted to loss of western control of the Cape and the Indian Ocean which would cut the world *in half and give* Russia control over Europe, Asia and Africa except for China.

The Government either did not know the facts because their intelligence services had been run down or else they knew the facts and *were concealing them from the* public. In either case, it was disgracefully wrong to try and kick all that under the carpet and to go on with defence cuts.

The fundamental error of British policy over the last decade had been the withdrawal from east of Suez, the Indian Ocean and the Cape route. If there was one man primarily responsible, it was the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It was an irony that he had his hands on the financial strings which he was pulling around the throat of the armed forces like an assassin's cord.

The Government no longer even pretended to be able to do anything to protect British merchant shipping anywhere outside the limits of the Nato area. Britain must reassess her *position in Nato.* Britain should progressively withdraw from her national strategy for Nato a large standing army in Germany and substitute as her contribution to Nato a much larger maritime capability. He would call *that the blue water school* of thought. Soviet ambitions had been built up on the basis of a vastly increasing presence at sea.

He did not accept the premise that a race war was inevitable in Africa. There was nothing for the races to fight about, and a multiracial society was possible. The Government seemed to take the other view. The Foreign Secretary had in a few months given the impression that in Africa only black was beautiful. It would be more constructive to recognize that the astonishing progress made in Africa during the last 100 years had been essentially done between black and white. The best future lay along the same path.

He deplored the Government's handling of the Rhodesia initiative *and their policy towards the* Republic of South Africa. Of 49 independent nations in Africa, 29 had one-party civilian government and 15 were ruled by the military, so it was understandable that South Africa should ask which *African country she was* being asked to emulate.

There was intense Soviet activity deployed against the interests of the West in almost every part of the African continent. Britain could not be expected to offset that single-handed. The Government showed no realization of the threat and there was no effective action to offset the Soviet influence. In so far as the Government had a coherent policy it seemed to be one which could only tempt the Soviet Union to go in for further adventures. Such an attitude was part of a Doomsday scenario for western civilization.

Mr James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab) said that in the Somali-Ethiopian war the Russians were aiding a fellow Marxist state. *They were plain about this. But his* sympathy was with the Somalis because they had such a bad deal from Britain and they did not want a worse one from those in eastern Europe.

Russia had looked at the map and considered that Addis was a better centre than Mogadishu for fanning out to other states like the Yemen, Sudan, Uganda and Kenya, for instance. The Ogaden was overwhelmingly Somali. The Somalis were the only nation state in Africa.

The British Government should take this matter to the United Nations. The OAU had funked their task here. He did now know why they were so pusillanimous.

If the Soviet/Ethiopian offensive turned the scales, as he believed it soon would, would the Ethiopians stop at the border? It was a big temptation to go on against hereditary enemies.

The matter should be brought into the open at the United Nations. If it was not, Somalia would go down. It would be the first skittle. There could be a blow-up in the Horn of Africa as bloody as that in Vietnam unless a means was found at international level of halting it.

Mr John Davies, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Knutsford, C) said they had a sense of unease at the Government's attitude to the problem.

Events in southern Africa and now in the Horn of Africa constituted a growing threat which seemed inadequately mirrored by the Foreign Secretary's observations on the issues which had arisen. Dr Owen's remarks following the Malta talks seemed to indicate that no solution in Rhodesia would be acceptable unless it met with the acceptance of the Soviet Union. That was an unacceptable situation to have put forward.

The facts of Soviet involvement in Africa were well known and not to any degree disputed. It was important to see all the various actions and interventions in the context of Soviet overall strategy. *It was not enough to put it down* to a permanent wish to embarrass the West. The extent of it was too great and the effort too determined for it simply to be regarded as a kind of feinting or probing.

The aggressive intent was more indirect than direct and was probably part of an overall strategy to buttress the political hierarchy of Russia. Another reason for their involvement in Africa was perhaps to strengthen their negotiating stance.

There was reason to suspect that Russia *would run short of oil in* the late 1980s and the material and natural resources involved might be another factor.

The danger of miscalculating the African position could give rise to outbursts of an irreversible nature. It was feared that the Government's policy of relative indifference and of a leaning towards appeasement would not meet the difficulties involved.

Africa was part of a wider picture which had brought out a characteristic of the Government which was dangerous for the West.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab) said the job of combating Russian influence in Africa was not so much a military exercise as a partly political and partly economic one.

One of the useful things the EEC had done was to create the Lome Convention which for the first time had brought a sense of genuine partnership to development between Europe and the independent states of Africa. In this sort of *context, western influence within* Africa was far more likely to be maintained than in the tone of Opposition speeches so far.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C) said they were faced *not* with communist aggression in *Africa but Soviet imperialism in a* form more naked and crude than had been seen in the scramble for Africa at the end of the last century.

Angola had been the first adventure and had come under Soviet control. Mozambique was more a Soviet protectorate than colony. If the Russians could take over in Rhodesia then South Africa would be next on their list.

They were watching a couple of half nelsons being established in southern Africa and the Horn of Africa over the lifeblood of the West. Their trade routes and raw materials would be brought under the control of a power recognized as the chief adversary of the West.

In Rhodesia they all wanted to see peace, but not at any price and without justice with an imposed black minority rule instead of white minority rule. That seemed to be where Dr Owen was heading. Anyone could get peace if they gave in to the enemy.

The Foreign Secretary's recent gratuitous regret over what happened in Saudi Arabia and the grovelling apology that followed did not show anything more than an amateurish handling of foreign affairs.

Mr Bruce Grocott (Lichfield and Tamworth, Lab) said that nationalism was the crucial powerful force in Africa. MPs for whom the forces of nationalism within themselves was such a powerful motivating factor seemed powerless to recognize it in others.

If Britain was to have any influence at all in Africa, it could only be on the basis of having some kind of moral authority in the continent. That moral authority could not come so long as they were seen to be on the wrong side in the crucial part of Africa, the south.

Mr Patrick Wall (Haltemprice, C) said that the Kremlin was after the complete, final victory of communism, on a world scale.

They had three ways in which to achieve the objective: a nuclear strike which would leave them a radioactive Europe to take over; a blitzkrieg by which they could reach the Rhine quicker than *Hitler did, but again with a danger* of nuclear escalation; or by cutting the sea communications of the West.

That would mean the end of European industry and the inevitable surrender of European governments. That was the key to their policy because by that they could attain their objectives without firing a shot.

He hoped the Conservative Front Bench would say that the party would back an internal settlement in Rhodesia provided it was regarded as fair and was supported by a referendum. Mr Smith was committed to a referendum among the whites, but there should also be one among the blacks.

Mr Roderick MacFarquhar (Belper, Lab) said that when the Somalis invaded the frontiers of Ethiopia and Britain would have been in a better position to support the Somalis if she had questioned the original invasion.

Adventurism fed upon adventurism and success in that area could give further encouragement to the hawks in the Kremlin to engage in further activities elsewhere in Africa.

The nationalism of African *liberation fighters* would be such as to mean that in the long run the Soviet Union had no hope of staying in those countries.

Mr William Shelton (Lambeth, Streatham, C) said the Government perhaps had some power to *influence* events in the Horn of Africa by giving President Banne of Somalia the aid he had asked for. He (Mr Shelton) understood Somalia had received at least economic aid from West Germany and aid from Iran.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab) said because the people of Africa had been oppressed for so long by western capitalism they were perhaps beginning to think that there was something in communism for them. Instead of attacking communism in Africa the attack should be made upon the conditions that made people susceptible to its influence.

Mr John Tomlinson, Under Secretary Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Meriden, Lab), said he rejected the suggestion that there was any failure on the part of the Government to recognize the dangers inherent in the present circumstances in Africa.

The Government were concerned by any evidence of Soviet activity *which destabilized* an area or hindered a peaceful settlement. They had made clear their view on the dangers of supplying quantities of sophisticated arms in these circumstances.

One of the biggest problems that many Africans and developing countries faced was the need for assistance. Here the United Kingdom and other western countries did their part.

It is in the interests (he said) of the African countries that the aid provided by outside powers including the Soviet Union should be concentrated much less on military assistance and much more on economic and technical assistance.

There was no foundation to recent Ethiopian allegations that at the Westminster meeting of representatives from five western governments on January 21 a secret agreement was reached to arm Somalia.

The Government had not been supplying arms to sides in this conflict. Various allegations that *arms in use by Somalia had a Nato* origin seemed calculated to aggravate the problems.

They should remember that a country was entitled to decide from which countries it should seek assistance. The Angolan Government said Cubans and Russians were there to help national reconstruction in the aftermath of a civil war.

In Mozambique the Government's goal was to ensure that country maintained its position of non-alignment.

He could not give any estimates of the numbers of Cubans and Russians in the Rhodesian conflict but he was concerned with any outside involvement. The conflict should be resolved by negotiations rather than bloodshed.

The Russians were hostile to any United Nations involvement in Rhodesia and it was no secret that they had close ties and gave material support to Zapu.

He could not accept any implication that he Russians had increased naval capacity as a result of recent developments in the Horn of Africa. The Russians had recently lost facilities in Somalia and they had not made up for that loss although they had undoubtedly made efforts to do so.

Direct outside action and involvement in the conflict was clearly unhelpful and the Government were opposed to it. They had urged the Soviet Union and other countries to leave the dispute to the Organization of African Unity to settle. It should remain a regional question to be settled in the African context. The Government upheld the OAU principles of territorial integrity and peaceful settlement of disputes.

A motion to end the debate was rejected by 180 votes to 142—Government majority, 38, and the debate was adjourned.

Agreements helped to keep down Japanese car exports to Britain

There was little doubt that but for the agreements reached between the British and Japanese motor car manufacturers Japanese penetration of the British market would be substantially greater, Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C) had asked whether Mr Dell had received a report from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders on *their latest talks with the Japanese* automobile industry.

Mr Dell (Birkenhead, Lab)—The main talks between the United Kingdom and Japanese motor industry associations open in Tokyo tomorrow (Tuesday). The Government attach importance to the achievement of a satisfactory outcome.

Mr Miller—The Japanese industry was unable to live up to its undertaking last year. Should that prove the case this year what action is he prepared to take to see that the limit is observed?

Mr Dell—I am aware of the situation last year which unfortunately was contributed to in substantial measure by the British motor car industry and its failure to produce cars during 1977.

I do not propose at this moment, just before these negotiations in Tokyo take place, to issue threats of what action might be taken. I merely emphasize the importance the Government attach to these talks being successful. I made that clear to Mr Ushiba during his visit to London.

Mr Max Madden (Sowerby, Lab)—As the British motor car industry last year imported more cars than it exported to the Common Market, British motor car manufacturers need to talk to other people apart from the Japanese. Does this not demonstrate the problem that imports are cancelling out our exports?

Mr Dell—The main duty of British motor car manufacturers, as of many other industries, in our relations with the Community is to produce good products and to sell them.

Mr Julian Ridsdale (Harwich, C)—It is encouraging that the Japanese motor car industry is taking British components, particularly from Lucas. Would he say a word about Mr Ushiba's visit and his sincere efforts to assure the EEC that the Japanese *wish* to be good trading partners in the world community?

Mr Dell—I am aware that the Japanese motor car industry is making some purchases of car components in this country. I welcome that, as I did the visit last *year of Japanese motor car manu*facturers to this country to investigate our components industry.

But the figures are still small and in no way compensate for the large imports into this country of cars. Mr Ushiba indicated the Japanese Government's intention substantially to reduce their multilateral surplus this year and we indicated the importance of their doing so.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab)—Had the Conservatives' advice been taken on the question of Meriden, Japanese penetration in the case of motor-cycles would have been even greater. The Government did well not to take the advice of those civil servants and others who wanted to get rid of Meriden.

As for Japanese import penetration across the whole range of motor car components, etc, he has been telling us roughly what he has said this afternoon for the past three years. The truth is that the *Japanese are taking us for a ride.*

Mr Dell—The Government's position on Meriden is sufficiently well known without my reemphasizing it today.

As for being taken for a ride, these are talks that take place between the British motor car manufacturing industry and the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers' Association (JAMA). There is little doubt that Japanese penetration into this country would be substantially greater than it is but for *these agreements.*

I hope there will be not merely an agreement with JAMA in Tokyo but that British motor car manufacturers produce cars to sell in this country and overseas.

Rise in cost of Tornado aircraft

Mr Frank Allaun (Salford, East, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Defence for a revised estimate of the cost an aircraft of the Tornado, including the research and development costs, particularly in the light of the additional weapon costs; by what percentage the cost an aircraft had increased on the original estimate; when the anticipated the weapons control system would be completed; whether the British version would now be interchangeable with the German and Italian versions; and what effect the differences were likely to have on the cost of the British version.

Mr John Gilbert, Minister of State for Defence, in a written reply, said—The latest estimated unit production costs for the Tornado aircraft are £7,900,000 for the interdiction strike version (IDS) and £9,400,000 for the air defence variant (ADV).

The increase in real terms in the estimated unit production cost of the IDS since the start of full development in 1970 is about 22 per cent, and of the ADV, which entered full development in 1976, about 2 per cent. It is not the practice to reveal total estimates of development costs.

Italy and the United Kingdom *have decided to procure the same* stores management system for the IDS version of the Tornado, while the Federal Republic of Germany has elected to procure a different system. Development of the former is now well advanced and good progress is being maintained.

Delivery of production units is expected to match that of production aircraft. The two equipments will not be interchangeable, but will provide interoperability between the aircraft and existing weapons of the three countries.

If the Federal Republic of Germany had chosen the same equipment as her partners, the total cost of the system to the United Kingdom would have been about £2m less at current price levels.

£441m worth of trade under deal with Russia

The total value of contracts placed under the Anglo-Soviet credit agreement was £441m, and this represented about 46 per cent of the £950m, Mr. Michael Meacher, Under Secretary for Trade, said during questions.

Mr Peter Blaker (Blackpool, South, C)—There is concern in the chemical industry that this line of credit and others offered by western countries are being used to finance the setting up in the Soviet Union of chemical factories on the basis that they will be paid for by selling back to the West their products at prices which will no doubt be politically fixed. This is undesirable.

The Government should take the lead in the EEC and ECD to work out guidelines for western countries to observe to limit the practice.

Mr Meacher (Oldham, West, Lab)—Buy-back arrangements are increasingly an aspect of trade, particularly with eastern block countries though they are not confined to them.

It is a matter for the commercial judgment of companies to decide whether to enter into contracts with the Soviet Union or other Comecon countries, considering the full conditions attached to the contracts.

Inflation accounting: complaint of confusion

The Government should give a lead to clarify the situation on inflation accounting, Mr Timothy Smith (Ashfield, C) said when he asked what progress had been made towards implementation of the Sandilands report on inflation accounting.

Mr Clinton Davis, Under Secretary for Trade—The inflation accounting steering group, set up by the Accounting Standards Committee with financial assistance from the Government, is continuing its task of preparing a current cost *accounting standard.*

Meanwhile, the ASC has issued interim guidelines recommending that listed companies include in their accounts a supplementary statement to show the effect of inflation on their results.

Mr Smith—Publication of the Sandilands report, then the Morpeth report and now the Hyde guidelines on inflation accounting have caused confusion in the public mind. The Morpeth Committee continues to do its work though its proposals were rejected by the *Institute of Chartered Accountants.*

Will his department give a lead in trying to clarify the situation?

Mr Davis (Hackney, Central, Lab)—I would have preferred to have seen more progress. But the Hyde guidelines will prove to be of value, though of limited *scope.* I do not take so gloomy a view as he does about progress.

Oil benefits

Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in a written reply, said: The Government intend to publish a White Paper on the benefits of North Sea oil in the near future.

Options still open on third London airport

Trends in air traffic had not been sufficiently established to enable the Government to commit money now on deciding the place for the *third London airport,* Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said in answer to questions on airports strategy and whether Stansted was the Government's choice.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, an Opposition spokesman on trade (South Hertfordshire, C)—Many people feel that the decision has already been taken about the next London airport and that decision is Stansted. *Many people feel that the Depart*ment of Trade for a long time has been *determined* to have Stansted as a major airport in spite of public inquiries which have come out against this decision.

Mr Dell (Birkenhead, Lab)—I am aware that many people think that that decision was taken I suppose it was inevitable that when it was seen in the White Paper that Stansted would expand to take four million passengers a year for people to assume that that decision was taken.

But the options set out in the White Paper as options for development after 1990, in our projection of services after 1990, are genuine options and there is no intention in the White Paper to foreclose this decision.

Mr Stanley Newens (Harlow, Lab)—Will he repudiate any suggestion that Stansted is to be the third London airport? Many of us who are genuinely concerned about the development of air traffic in the London area, and are concerned also about Heathrow and Gatwick, think it would be more sensible for much of that traffic to be dispersed to the provinces.

Mr Dell—We stated three options in the White Paper. On the diver*sion of traffic from the south-east* to the rest of the country, everything that is possible will be done. One of the steps taken to achieve that will be the concentration on regional airports.

Nevertheless, no one should exaggerate the possibilities for diversion from the south-east. It is necessary to study these three options as rapidly as we can as trends in traffic become clear.

Mr John Nott, chief Opposition spokesman on trade (St Ives, C)—Is not the only real option, apart from Stansted, for a major London airport taking us into the 1990s a green field site? Is it not the case that if we are to have the necessary airport capacity in the late 1980s and into the 1990s, the planning for a green field site has to start *soon and that this is* the issue that the Government have avoided?

Mr Dell—The Government have not avoided any issue on which it is important to take a decision now. There are three options: Stansted, a military airport, or a *green field site.*

The traffic trends are not sufficiently established, despite the forecasts which have been made, for us to commit the enormous expenditure which would be involved now.

It is more sensible to allow a little time to see how the traffic trends develop. As he will have noticed, 1977 was a special year. It may be untypical that the increase in traffic in 1977 over 1976 was below the low trend of the forecast *in the White Paper.*

To reserve the position for the moment until traffic trends become clearly established is a sensible view to take.

Airline services to Australia

An MP was urged by Mr Clinton Davis, Under Secretary for Trade (Hackney, Central, Lab) not to "hot up" the situation created by Malaysia's move to prevent Singapore Airlines flying Concorde from Singapore to Britain.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C) had asked—What steps is the minister taking *to oppose the ridiculous move* by Malaysia to vent their spite on Singapore by preventing Singapore Airlines flying Concorde to London?

Mr Davis—We are involved in discussions and negotiations with Malaysia. To try to hot up the situation along the lines Mr Adley suggests would do nobody any good.

Earlier Mr Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar, C) said—The applications recently submitted by Qantas and British Airways for a further reduction in the minimum fare between Britain and Australia are quite likely to be introduced shortly, but the application by Laker Airways for even lower fares is likely to be postponed indefinitely.

As the Department of Trade are self-confessed fans of Freddie Laker, can the ministry take steps to encourage Laker to start the service for which there is a sizable potential market?

Mr Davis—Mr McCrindle has misunderstood the situation. The Australian Government is currently involved in the Civil Aviation Authority policy review which will not be determined until the end of March. There will be no *advance in the provision of the* services until the Australian Government has made up its mind on this issue.

The Laker application was adjourned sine die to allow the lines of Australian policy to *emerge.*

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debate on pay policy "blacklist". Shipbuilding (Redundancy Payments) Bill, remaining stages.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Suppression of Terrorism Bill, second reading. Debate on E.E.C. Committee reports on research and development policy.

Open world trading system sought

The Government hoped some progress on agriculture might be possible in multilateral trade talks in Geneva, but it would be wrong to exaggerate the possibilities of changing the common agricultural policy in these negotiations, Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade (Birkenhead, Lab), said.

Mr Timothy Renton (Mid-Sussex, C) had asked Mr Dell whether he was satisfied with the Govern*ment's progress in promoting* free and fair international trade.

Mr Dell—Government policy is to work for the maintenance of the open world trading system, though one adapted to the realities of the present economic situation.

The success of the multilateral trade negotiations is a central element of this policy, and I am glad to say that the major participants have agreed to enter the substantive phase of the negotiations on the basis of a number of working hypotheses relating to the various matters at issue.

I hope it will now be possible to draw the negotiations to an early and positive conclusion.

Mr Renton—What initiative will the Government take in the multilateral trade negotiations in Geneva that might combat the growing trend towards protectionism in the third world, and lead to further trade?

Mr Dell—The initiatives which the Government are taking in these negotiations have been incorporated in the mandate of the EEC which will be negotiating at Geneva. They include matters such *as a reduction in tariffs on a har*monizing basis; a selective safeguard which we think is essential in today's world to enable selective action to be taken; and a break in the phasing of tariff reductions.

Mr John Nott, chief Opposition spokesman on trade (St Ives, C)—Non-tariff barriers are a greater cause of world protectionism than tariffs, in particular the subsidies on declining industries like shipbuilding and political pricing.

Are the Government in agreement with the draft guidelines produced on non-tariff barriers, and will they be supporting them in the negotiations now going on in Geneva?

Mr Dell—There are no firm guidelines on non-tariff barriers. There are various informal documents being circulated. These are the subject of discussion and it would be useful to make advances on non-tariff barriers.

There is probably no area of international trade in which it is more difficult to make progress because of the difficulty of assessing what has happened, and making sure people are adhering to the rules laid down.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab)—Why are the Government not using the negotiations to help in the reform of the CAP which is the most extreme form of protectionism in the world at present?

Mr Dell—The relevant forms of protectionism in agriculture might be more difficult to establish than he assumes. I hope some progress on agriculture will be possible and we will be able to do something about trade in third markets.

It would not be right to exaggerate the possibilities created by these negotiations for changing the CAP.

Export potential in Vietnam

Mr Michael Meacher, Under Secretary for Trade (Oldham, West, Lab) denied that the Government were "dragging their feet" over the provision of long-term credits to Vietnam for the purchase of British agricultural machinery because of the American trade veto.

He told Mr Frank Allaun (Salford, East, Lab)—Vietnam has considerable long-term export potential but is now in considerable difficulties because of reconstruction and the lack of hard *currencies. We will match* exceptional terms provided by other credit insurers.

We will go further and are prepared to consider use of the aid trade contingency funds by using a small proportion of the multilateral *aid programme* to give higher priority to the commercial importance of sound development projects.

Help for first-time house buyers

The Home Purchase Assistance and Housing Corporation Guarantee Bill to authorize the use of public money for assisting first-time purchasers of house property and to increase the financial limit governing the housing corporation's power to guarantee loans to housing associations and others, was presented and formally read the first time.

Woman right to use force to stop fingerprints being taken

Regina v Jones

Before Lord Justice Shaw, Mr Justice Mais and Mr Justice Pen Pain

A woman who violently resists an attempt by the police to tal her fingerprints by force was he by the Court of Appeal to ha acted within her rights.

Their Lordships allowed appeal by Mrs Yvonne Eddie Ann Jones, aged 43, of Richmo Road, Kingston-upon-Thame against convictions at Kingst *Crown Court* (Judge Wakley) criminal damage, dangerous dri ing and assaulting two police cc stables. She had been fined £ on each of the charges of crir nal damage and dangerous drivi disqualified from driving for thr months, and sentenced to 28 da imprisonment suspended for 1 years in respect of the assaul

Mr Christopher Sumner for t appellant; Mr J. H. Robbins t the Crown. Neither coun appeared below.

MR. JUSTICE PETER PA reading the reserved judgment the court, said that leave to app had been granted because t case gave rise to issues of law some public importance. The c itself was a storm in a teacup. arose out of the difficulty of pa ing in Kingston. A trifling ir dent was inflated by bad temp to quite ridiculous proportio The appellant behaved with so lack of dignity, while the poli sadly enough, failed to live up the high standard which they themselves and normally attain

In the afternoon of Septem 1, 1976, the appellant was a by a constable in Castle Stre Kingston. Her car was parked the middle of the road at end of a cul-de-sac. She waiting for a vacant park space. The constable asked to move and she drove a yards on to a yellow line. asked her to move again. Anot car then started to vacate a pa ing space, but before the ap lant could move into that bay third car swept past her into The appellant also drove her towards the bay and bumped other car. The damage was slight that it was repaired £8.

The immediate consequence the bump was a sharp altercat between the appellant and constable. Four other po officers arrived, the appellant arrested for causing criminal d age, forcibly removed from car, taken to the police stat and balled.

The police required the ap lant to give her fingerprints. said that she was not prepare consent and that they would to get an order from the ma trates if they persisted in demand, which she regarded humiliating.

It was arranged to obtain order from the magistrates for a police surgeon to be the station to certify that appellant was fit to have fingerprints taken and to detained. But the thoroughnes the police did not extend checking on their statut powers. The relevant provi was section 40(2) of the Ma trates' Courts Act, 1952, wh provided: "Fingerprints taken pursuance of an order under section shall be taken either the place where the court sitting, or if the person to wh the order relates is remanded custody, at any place to wh he is committed, and a const may use such reasonable force may be necessary for the pose."

Since the appellant had balled, it should have been plain that an order could be m for her fingerprints to be ta only at the courthouse. That not just a technical matter. It no doubt salutary that the pc had a wide power to take fin prints. But it must be rememb that many people found humiliating to be fingerpri and regarded such a requirem as an infringement of the lib of the subject.

The provisions of section were the result of consider public debate and the safegu in the section were to be str regarded. It was an important tection for the subject who w liberty that his fingerprints n be taken against his will on the court building where the o was made. The subject insisted upon that was acting in his rights.

After the order had been obtained, an attempt was made to take the appellant's fi prints at the police station objected strenuously. After police surgeon had been cons about her condition, an att was made to take the fingerpri by force. The appellant defen herself stoutly, biting a wo police constable and kicking leg. She also bit a male consta The police desisted from attempt.

The appellant thus found self in a very difficult posit Assaulting the police was a ser charge and a person who was victed of it must in the ordi way expect to be deprived of liberty. Further, she found self charged with dangerous ing and causing criminal dam

Since there was no sugges that the appellant had used force than was reasonably ne sary, her innocence of the ass counts was established.

Further, in their Lordsh view, it was oppressive to ch the appellant with dangerous d ing. There was no evidence w soever of danger to the pu Dangerous driving was a ser traffic offence, conviction which would usually cost a dr his licence. To seek to appl to a petrifogging incident such occurred in the parking bay valued the serious nature of offence.

The conviction for crim damage might well have induced by the mass of evide led by the prosecution in sup of the assaults for which appellant should never brought to trial at all. In circumstances that conviction be regarded as unsafe and unsa factory.

All the convictions were quas and the appellant's costs ordered to be paid out of co funds.

Solicitors: T. V. Edwards Co; Metropolitan Police Soli

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Law Report February 6 1978

Court of Appeal

Attorney General explains policy on blacklist firms

Holiday Hall Ltd v Chapple and

Lord Denning, Master of Rolls, Lord Justice Ormrod and Lord Justice Geoffrey Lane

The Attorney General, in a statement made when the renewed application of Holiday Hall Ltd for an interim injunction against the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union came before the Court of Appeal, said that it had been the Government's policy to take any action with the intention or consequence of causing breach of contractual or other legal obligations.

The Attorney, Mr Sam Silkin QC, made clear that there was no derogation from the Government's right to place contracts in a manner which would best serve the national interest, and the main factor to be taken into consideration was whether or not the employer was observing the guidelines in the fight against inflation.

The claim for the injunction, which was granted on Friday (*The Times*, February 4) to stop a selective employment strike by EETPU members on the ground that the council had not implemented in full a settlement agreed by the National Industrial board for the industry in December, was not proceeded with as a result of the Attorney's statement.

On Friday Mr Christopher Slade, for the company, said that the Department of Employment required the industry not to give effect to the fall-back position in the settlement, and that the Department had threatened that if it were implemented the company would be in jeopardy of statutory sanctions, although there was no statutory force. That was a serious matter, counsel said, as the company receiving 75 per cent of its business from government or government-related sources.

The Attorney, with whom Mr Woolf appeared on behalf of the Department, said:

"The present proceedings were brought to my attention for the first time after the court rose on Friday. Since that time I have considered the matter and considered the matters before the court. I have been informed myself fully of the concerns the position of the Department of Employment. I have read the report of the proceedings on Friday in The Times and I have over the weekend discussed the position with my colleagues concerned. Having done so, I would like, at the outset, on behalf of the department to establish a very important principle:—that it is not and has never been the policy of the Government that it will take any action, with the intention or consequence of causing a breach of contractual or other legal obligations.

"Accordingly the Government accepts that the plaintiffs are entitled simply to comply with any legal obligations to which they may be subject and intends to take no action whatever which would in any way be designed to induce or persuade the defendants to do so or which would be calculated to work out for adverse treatment unfairly on the ground of non-compliance with their legal obligations.

"This statement, I hope, is sufficient to dispose of the primary matters on which their Lordships required to be satisfied and will also, I hope, dispose of the issues between the parties since there is no reason, now that the Government is content to say that the plaintiffs should be entitled to act in honouring whatever contractual obligations they may owe to their employees."

The Attorney-General then explained how the difficulties had arisen:

"The Government policy since July, which has been set out in three White Papers presented to Parliament (Cmnd. 6151, 6507 and 6882), culminating in the White Paper entitled *The Attack on Inflation* has exhorted employers to comply with guidance figures for the level of pay increases, in the firm belief that it is essential in the national economic interest that inflation should be reduced, and in particular, that increases in incomes should be restrained. It is common ground that the Government considered it as one of its responsibilities to secure the success of its policy.

"Those White Papers also recognised that the Government proposed to exercise whatever powers it could in a manner consistent with the policy; in particular made clear that in relation to firms as contractual obligations they would take into account the principle that the Government ought wherever possible to uphold the devotion of contracts by firms to enterprises which are engaged in their business in a manner likely to fuel the fires of inflation.

"It is in the present case is I welcome the fact, abundantly clear from the Industrial board (JIB), as representing both the employers and the employees in this has fully recognized the importance in the national endeavour of achieving a pay settlement which falls within the parameters of the guidelines in the White Paper as accepted by Parliament. The proposed agreement was that the two sides of the industry both considered to be within the guidelines. The agreement was submitted to the Department of Employment, which, in the normal current procedure, gave consideration.

"In certain assurances the Department requested particular, relating to which were not linked to incomes schemes, it raised no objection. It stated this in the letter of December 6. There was nothing to lose as the new agreement required to be implemented by January 1. The agreement was made on December 7 and assurances were communicated to December 8. At a meeting of the JIB, on December 12 the agreement was incorporated in the JIB determination. It was stated that this would not take effect until January 1, having regard to the part of the contract of employment of all employees. A few days later, on December 16, the JIB made available to the Department costings which the Department had not previously had. The Department considered these figures and its officers immediately entertained misgivings as to whether the assurances which had been given to them on December 8 could in fact be fulfilled.

They communicated their doubts to the JIB—to both sides of the agreement—on December 22. This led to further negotiation between the department and the JIB, in the course of which the department asked the JIB to refrain from implementing it until the matter in issue had been disposed of. It was at this point that the department drew to the attention of the JIB the possibility of the use of discretionary measures by the Government in accordance with the White Paper. It follows from what I have said earlier that the Government was seeking to persuade the two sides of the industry within the JIB to renegotiate the agreement and had no intention whatever of seeking to persuade any employer to break whatever legal obligations he might be subject to.

The result of these negotiations was that the representative body of employers were persuaded that a variation of the settlement for the purpose indicated, would be acceptable, but were unable to persuade the employees' side to accept such a variation. The employers' association and the department then entered into discussions separately from the employees' side of the JIB. In the course of those discussions, the department's representative made certain statements concerning the possible use of the Government's discretionary powers which I concede were unfortunately worded and which evidently led the association to believe that their members were being invited not to comply with any contracts of employment with their employees which were based on the JIB agreement and were by early January already binding.

As I have made clear, any such reference is wholly contrary to Government policy and intentions. Accordingly, in so far as those statements were construed as an invitation to employers to break contracts of employment, I unreservedly withdraw that interpretation on behalf of the Government.

Unfortunately, the association on the same day sent guidance to its members advising them to implement the JIB determination with the exception of the lieu bonus paragraphs. It added that on that matter urgent discussions were taking place with the department.

Further discussions took place on possible solutions but essentially the position remained unchanged. The association and the department reached agreement on methods of resolving the issue, but the employees' side did not renegotiate the JIB determination of December 16. That accordingly remained effective. It appears, however, that the plaintiffs followed the advice given to them in their association's circular and these proceedings in due course followed.

In view of what I have said I hope and anticipate that the plaintiffs will no longer feel constrained to refrain from implementing any legal obligations which they may recognize and that in the result these proceedings may cease to have any useful purpose.

Finally, I would ask your Lordships to bear with me if I make clear that which I am sure is already clear to your Lordships but which could be misinterpreted or misunderstood elsewhere with damaging effect to the policy of seeking to contain inflation. Your Lordships will note that I have not relied upon the contention set out in the plaintiffs' evidence which is still undisputed that the obligation to pay this increase was still conditional. If this were the case it would obviously be of considerable comfort to the department and would explain the terms of the correspondence. However, having considered the evidence available to me, I do not think it is right to rely on this, though I say this without prejudice to the plaintiffs' position as they may well have evidence of which I am unaware.

What I have said implies no derogation from the Government's right, subject to any relevant statutory provisions, to place its contracts *in the manner which in* its view will best serve the national interest, *and* hence to take into account, among other relevant factors, whether an employer is or is not observing the White Paper guidelines for the purpose of controlling inflation. That is a matter which is not in issue in this case.

I have addressed no argument to your Lordships about it. If it had been in issue I am sure I would have been able to satisfy your Lordships of its legal propriety notwithstanding the comments which have been made in the newspapers and elsewhere. However, I am equally sure that this would have taken more of your Lordships' time than would be justified in the circumstances and I am relieved that before this action is disposed of there is no need for me to do so. I trust your Lordships will feel it appropriate to make this clear in any judgments that may be given since comments in the press indicate that there are some who now regard this case as being a trial of the Government's pay policy and this it clearly is not. It does, however, still involve very important principles, which I put at the forefront of my observations to your Lordships."

The Attorney closed by repeating: "It is not now and has never been the policy of the Government that it should take any action with the intention or consequence of causing a breach of contractual or other legal obligations."

Mr Benet Hytner, QC, who appeared with Mr Frederic Reynold on behalf of the union representatives, said that for 10 years, through thick and thin, EETPU members had honoured every determination by the joint industrial board. The union had taken action against the company because the employers were reneging on an agreement formulated by the JIB. The call for a strike was not irresponsible. It was a necessary step to ensure that in the future the right disciplinary code adopted within the union would continue to be effective.

On the understanding that the strike would not proceed if the company honoured the pay agreement, as they could feel free to do as a result of the Attorney General's statement, Mr Clarke, on behalf of the company, withdrew the application for an injunction.

Solicitors: Linklaters & Paines, (for the company) Lawford & Co (for the union); Treasury Solicitor.

Legal appointments

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Location: Hobart

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APPLICATIONS: These close with the undersigned on Friday, March, 3rd, 1978, for appointment to this position. The appointee will be the Head of the Parliamentary Counsel's Branch of the Attorney-General's Department. Although the successful applicant will not be required to take up duty until towards the end of March, 1978, the selection of an applicant for appointment will be made shortly after the closing date.

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Catalogues 30p.

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at Phillips

Tuesday, 7 Feb, 11 am
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, WORKS OR ART, CARPETS
Tuesday, 7 Feb, 1.45 pm
FINE JEWELLERY, No View Sat.
Wednesday, 8 Feb, 11 am
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL CERAMICS AND GLASS
Thursday, 9 Feb, 11 am
ART NOUVEAU
Friday, 10 Feb, 11 am
SPECIAL SALE OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN SILVER AND OLD SHEFFIELD PLATE
See details below illustration.
Monday, 13 Feb, 11 am
ANTIQUE DECORATIVE FURNITURE, WORKS OF ART, CARPETS
Monday, 13 Feb 2 pm
OILS
Tuesday, 14 Feb 11 am
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, WORKS OF ART, CARPETS
Tuesday, 14 Feb, 1.30 pm
BOOKS, MSS., MAPS AND POSTCARDS
Tuesday, 14 Feb, 2 pm
ETHNOGRAPHICAL AND ANTIQUITIES

PHILLIPS WEST 2
Thursday, 9 Feb, 10 am
FURNITURE & OBJECTS
View Wednesday, 9-7 pm
at 10 Salem Road, W.2., Tel. 01-221 5303

PHILLIPS MARYLEBONE
Friday, 10 Feb, 10 am
FURNITURE & OBJECTS
PICTURES at 12.30 pm
View Thursday, 9-4 pm
Wednesday, 15 Feb, 12 noon
STAFFORDSHIRE POTTERY, WARE, FAIRINGS, GOSS AND COMMEMORATIVE CHINA ETC.
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Wednesday, 1 March, 6.30 pm
ETHNOGRAPHICAL AND AFRICAN ART
Tuesday, 7 March, 2 pm
JEWELLERY
Thursday, 9 March, 2 pm
EUROPEAN CERAMICS AND GLASS
Saturday, 11 March and Monday, 13 March
VIEWING STAMP CLINIC & EXHIBITION OF CHINESE STAMPS at 867. To be sold in London.
Wednesday, 15 March
CLOCKS AND WORKS OF ART
Saturday, 8 April
COLLECTORS' ITEMS
Thursday, 13 April
JEWELLERY, SILVER AND OBJECTS OF VERTU
The following sales will take place at 525 East 72nd Street, New York.
Tuesday, 14 March
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, WORKS OF ART from the Estate of Fira Benenson, New York, and others.
Tuesday, 21 March
FURNITURE, DECORATIONS AND PAINTINGS from a Long Island Home.
Wednesday, 22 March and Thursday, 23 March
BOOKS
Thursday, 30 March
RUGS
Thursday, 6 April
EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN PAINTINGS
Tuesday, 18 April
FURNITURE AND DECORATIONS

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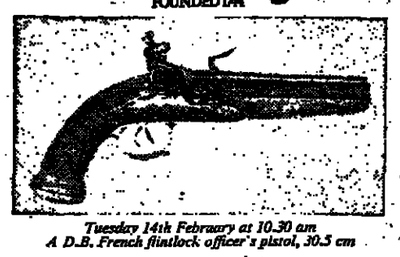
Wednesday 8th February at 10.30 am and 2 pm
ANCIENT, ENGLISH AND FOREIGN COINS IN GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE TOGETHER WITH COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS AND BANKNOTES
Cat. (4 plates) 50p

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BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL PEWTER
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Friday 10th February at 11 am
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Monday 13th February at 2.30 pm
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 at 2 p.m.
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صكذا من الإصل

Israel gambles on a buyer's market

Observing the Middle East peace *negotiations from Cairo* these past few weeks has been like watching a slow-motion film of a car crash. A final collision between President Anwar Sadat's idealism and Mr Menachem Begin's tough political realism *seems inevitable* unless the United States can stop the film and rewrite the ending.

The days since the turn of the year have been humiliating for the Egyptians and scenes *such as those when Mr Ezer* Weizmann, the Israeli Defence Minister, got a rapturous welcome in the Cairo bazaars when he arrived for the opening of the military committee talks are unlikely to be repeated.

When Mr Sadat called for serious negotiations by the Israelis he was not expecting a *sudden change* of heart on their part. He merely wanted an end to what the Egyptians see as a series of statements *and incidents, from both the* United States and Israel, which have embarrassed and belittled Egypt and underlined Israel's vast *military and technological* superiority and, perhaps more important, her superior political leverage in world capitals. *Mr Sadat has put all his eggs* in the American basket and there is nowhere else he can turn to in the foreseeable future.

It is as if the gift to the Israelis of Mr Sadat's visit to Jerusalem has not merely been smashed but returned to the donor one piece at a time. Since that time the Israelis have seemed intent on "proving" once again that might is right.

When Mr Muhammad Kamal, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, arrived in Jerusalem for the political discussions, the Egyptians asked that there should be no press conference during the visit. Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, agreed and kept silent. Mr Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Defence Minister, however, not only gave a press conference but also attempted to preempt the Egyptian case. The arrival of the Egyptian delegation also coincided with a fresh announcement on the *contentious issue of Israeli* settlements on captured Egyptian territory in Sinai.

All this, combined with the *now-famous dinner speech of* Mr Begin, on the eve of the full talks, to which Mr Kamal declined to reply because he *had been given to understand* that the evening would be a social one, persuaded Mr Sadat to withdraw his delegation. Undoubtedly there was a strong element of brinkmanship involved, but Egyptian pride was also at stake.

Not long after the withdrawal of the delegation came a leak from the Central Intelligence Agency that Israel had possessed nuclear weapons since 1974. To add insult to injury, on the day the military committee talks opened in Cairo, the United States announced the approval of the sale of a new batch of advanced military aircraft to Israel. This announcement—



Mr Kamal: no reply.

given the fact that Egyptians feel to all intents and purposes the Israeli settlements being discussed by the committee are defended with American weapons—seemed calculated to strengthen the Israeli position and to contravene Mr Carter's statement that the settlements are illegal.

When Senator Church made the not unreasonable suggestion that a freeze on all arms deliveries to the Middle East might be in keeping with the present attempts to settle the dispute by other means, he was immediately rebuked by Mr Begin and changed his mind the following day to say, of course, that there was no intention of interfering with standing commitments to Israel, which include contracts to supply the most advanced fighter aircraft in the world, the McDonnell-Douglas 15.

The settlements, perhaps more than any other issue, have convinced the Egyptians that the Israelis are not seriously negotiating but playing for time. Difficult talks on the Palestinian issue were expected by both sides, but Cairo felt that with time and patience an accommodation could be reached. The second *session of the military committee* talks, which ended last week shortly before Mr Sadat left for the United States, *seemed to prove once again to* the Egyptians that the Israelis are only toying with them. The position of Jerusalem on the settlements had not moved: "How can they seriously suggest that a few settlements in the Sinai are necessary for security with an air force comparable to anything in Europe?" asked an Egyptian Ministry spokesman.

Small wonder, then, that Mr Sadat is hardening his stand on the question of Palestinian *self-determination, having* endorsed Mr Carter's vague formulation calling for the Palestinians to have a "role in the determination of their own future", enunciated earlier in Aswan.

As one Western diplomat put it: "The Israelis saw the price Egypt was asking for peace and, on the whole, they liked it, but they decided to try to bring the price down."

How much longer will it be a buyer's market?

David Watts.

A danger in Europe's Terrorism Convention

The end for the political refugee?

By a Special Correspondent

Today the House of Lords gives its second reading to a Government Bill which will allow the United Kingdom to ratify and implement the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism. While in this country the convention has attracted little attention or comment, in France it has provoked the formation of a pressure group, "France—Terre d'Asile", dedicated to preventing ratification and preserving *the traditional and constitutionally* acknowledged practice of political asylum.

The convention seeks to achieve its object, first, by facilitating the extradition between contracting states of those accused of "*terrorist* offences". Article 1 therefore declares that none of a range of crimes shall be regarded as "*political*"—*the list includes* hijacking, offences against "protected persons", including diplomats, kidnapping, and the use of bombs or automatic weapons. (Article 2 in turn provides that states *may* deny political character to other offences. These include serious acts of violence not otherwise within Article 1 which are against the life, physical integrity or liberty of persons and acts against property which create a collective danger for people.

Whatever one's intuitive feelings about terrorism, there can be no doubt that the European convention is potentially a most serious threat to the practice of asylum and the protection of refugees. For it is by no means inconceivable that a person accused or even guilty of any of the broad offences described in Articles 1 and 2 might yet, if surrendered, be persecuted—that is, his life, liberty or integrity might by injured, threatened or seriously *prejudiced by reason of* irrelevant distinctions.

One provision of the convention is therefore to be given a welcome. The article in question, Article 5, was introduced on the initiative of the British delegation, and it allows but does not oblige, contracting states to refuse surrender if persuaded that the request is inspired by the wrong motives or intentions. Specifically it permits non-extradition if there are substantial grounds for believing that the demand is made for the purpose of prosecuting or punishing a person on account of his race, religion, nationality or political opinion, or that his position may be prejudiced for any of these reasons.

The corollary to this exception is that those not so extradited *shall* be tried "without exception whatsoever and without undue delay" by the state refusing surrender. This innovation, the prosecution of offences committed abroad, goes far beyond the principle of territorial jurisdiction which has traditionally limited application and enforcement of the criminal law. In the United Kingdom, however, there are already legislative precedents for such proceedings, for example, under the 1971 Hijacking Act and, with regard to the Republic of Ireland, under the 1975 Criminal Jurisdiction Act.

The Government's Suppression of Terrorism Bill does not incorporate the convention as such. But it does by way of reference, alteration and amendment, bring the principal, provisions into the corpus of existing statute law, so that there are now set out in a schedule to the Bill those offences which are henceforth to be extraditable, regardless

There is no doubt that the convention is potentially a most serious threat to the practice of asylum and the protection of refugees

of any political element or intention. The Bill elects to include both Article 1 and Article 2 offences and makes provision also for assistance to other contracting states in the matter of prosecutions. The necessary amendments are *therefore made to the Extradition* Act 1870, the Backing of Warrants (Republic of Ireland) Act 1965 and the Fugitive Offenders Act 1967 *(which* governs extradition between the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries).

But in Clause 2 the Bill does incorporate as an overall and apparently mandatory requirement the "guarantee" allowed by Article 5 of the convention: and other clauses provide the necessary corollary of *trial in the United Kingdom* for those who are not to be surrendered. To what extent then is the demise of the political *offence exception to be* regretted?

The principle of the non-extradition of political offenders is commonly claimed to be dictated by some rule of international law of general application. As such it has been invoked by Ireland in justification not only for the refusal of its courts to extradite alleged terrorists to Northern Ireland or Great Britain, but also for its refusal to ratify the present convention. Yet the evidence in support of a rule is hardly conclusive. Indeed, the interests of political alliance have often dominated, treaties for the mutual surrender of political dissidents have been concluded and there is a *widely tolerated although* often criticized practice of "disguised extradition", whereby immigration law powers of exclusion and expulsion are employed to avoid the niceties of extradition procedure.

In the United Kingdom this limitation on the surrender of fugitive offenders has itself been narrowly construed. The legislative fathers of section 3 of the 1870 Extradition Act, John Stuart Mill among them, anticipated that courts would take it upon themselves not only to examine the offence for which extradition was requested, but also to consider the bona fides of the demanding state. This expectation proved somewhat over-optimistic. Within a few years United Kingdom courts had indicated that they would only detect political character in offences occuring between competing factions, each struggling for power in a state. The anarchist, "the enemy of all governments", was soon excluded and the question of good faith abandoned to that political *expedient*, the Secretary of State's discretion.

Despite the express provisions of Clause 2 of this new Bill there remains therefore cause for concern lest the courts of this country should decline to examine fully and openly the question whether a fugitive's basic human rights will be recognized and protected by the *state which* demands his surrender. Such matters, as well as related concepts of persecution, discrimination and prejudice, are clearly not yet fully integrated into United Kingdom jurisprudence. In 1971, in an analogous case under the Fugitive Offenders Act, the House of Lords expressed but did not apply *the rule that* a "serious possibility" of detention or prejudice was sufficient to justify non-extradition. Humanitarian considerations demand, as a matter of principle, the exercise of the benefit of the doubt: but whether that nettle can be grasped is a nice question.

Non-extradition of the political *offender must continue to* be seen as but one aspect of the institution of asylum—that competence of states, and occasionally *their duty, to protect* foreign nationals within their borders by denying access to another sovereign power and *by refusing execution of its* laws. It is a practice soundly based on principles of humanity and justice, but asylum for the *political offender* is evidently a matter in which "political" considerations will often struggle uneasily with humanitarian factors.

Thus it is that the European *Convention on the Suppression* of Terrorism may be seen as a further limitation upon the rights of the refugee. Certainly it is based, perhaps not unreasonably, upon an awareness of shared democratic values. But for those who will debate the merits of the Government's Bill there remains a further question.

Is it beyond the bounds of belief that, at some future time, governments may discover that their own power and authority are best preserved by rigidly controlling confining and channelling all opposition? And that there is a mutual interest in maintaining the power and authority of all other governments, regardless of creed or complexion? Under such a tyranny or established governments will it be that the only outlet for opposition is through the offences *scheduled to the present or* some future Bill?

If the political offence exception is to be ended, then the minimum corrective remain formal recognition of the human rights element and mandatory and effective guarantees against the extradition of those who may be tried punished or seriously prejudiced by reason of irrelevant distinctions such as race, religion, nationality or political opinions. Article 5 of the European Convention demands the fullest support. Its terms have an excellent pedigree and are anticipated in the 1957 European Convention on Extradition and in the non-discriminatory provisions of instruments such as the European Convention on Human Rights. Humanitarian considerations, moreover, lie at the heart of those treaties specifically *designed for the protection of* refugees, unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to well-founded fear of *persecution.*

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Bernard Levin

Reflections on the sword in the stone

Violent fighting, including the use of guns and resulting in casualties, took place over the weekend in a small town in Portugal. The cause was a disagreement between the people of the town, who had planned to restore the head to a statue of Dr Salazar; the former dictator (the town in question was Salazar's birthplace), and the present Portuguese government, which had forbidden the repair of the statue, overthrown after the fall of the dictatorship in April, 1974. The The battling villagers, when troops moved in against them, are reported to have shouted that they had been forbidden to restore Dr Salazar's head because the present government had *no head itself; other jokes* went up unbidden, concerning excitable Iberians who lose their heads, or definitions of democracy as a system of counting heads, or Shakespeare's view that uneasy lies the head that wears a crown. Guillotine . . . Madame Tussaud . . . heads I win . . . head of state.

But it is really no laughing matter, and not only for the people who stopped the bullets in the fighting. There are few *things more symbolically* powerful than a statue, and few that so focus and intensify political and similar passions. *One of the most haunting* photographs of the postwar world came from Budapest at the time of the Hungarian *Revolution*; it showed the monstrous statue of Stalin that stood in a commanding position in that city, and a group of patriots, with hawsers attached to it, pictured at precisely the moment it began to topple from its base.

Max Beerbohm once suggested that when it was desired to commemorate some great man in London, this should be done not by unveiling a new statue but by veiling an existing one, and it is true that most memorial statuary is hideous to a greater or lesser degree. (Saki wrote a short story in which a group of suffragettes announce that, unless the government agrees to give votes to women, they will erect all over the country actual-size replicas of the Victoria Memorial in front of Buckingham Palace.) Certainly if Lady Churchill had given instructions to dynamite the Parliament Square statue of her husband rather than burn the Sutherland portrait of him, she would have deserved the thanks rather than the re*proaches of those who love art* and admired Sir Winston. And I have no reason to suppose that the statue of Salazar which has *caused such trouble was an* artistic masterpiece, nor that even if it was, the battle over it was an aesthetic one.

On the one hand, the Portuguese Government, largely composed of men who worked to overthrow the dictatorship (some of them had suffered under it), did not think it appropriate or timely for such tributes to be paid to the man whose brutal and fraudulent rule, enforced with censorship, rigged elections, denial of *elementary rights, unjust im*prisonment and torture, had lasted for almost 40 years. On the other hand, the citizens of the town in which he had been born merely wanted to put on an existing statue of him, decapitated when his successor's regime was overthrown, a new head, for which they had themselves paid. This dispute should not have led to bloodshed, but on the other hand nobody should have been surprised that it did.

The evil that men do *lives* after them; how much more so when reminders in stone are left where everyone can see *them. Symbols are notoriously* potent, and their power extends both to those who accept them and those who reject them; look at the frequency with which the statue of Karl Marx in Highgate Cemetery has been daubed with paint by those wishing to register their disapproval of Marxism, and look at *the mounds of flowers* that appeared during the "Czech Spring" on the statues of those who for the Czech people represented the independence from their hated oppressors that *seemed at last in sight.*

I have remarked before now on the unwisdom of those who seek, by sympathetic magic, to *perpetuate their rule by asso*ciating themselves with some permanent feature of the landscape, to the extent of giving it their names. This may be a square in the capital city; *it may be a town (hands up* those who can say without pause for reflection what Stalingrad is called today, and what *Leningrad was called* before it was called Leningrad, and go to the bottom of the class those who said that the answer to the second question is St Petersburg); it may be a lake, a river or a mountain. In any event, the more keen on thus immortalizing himself the ruler may be, the less likely is his rule to be immortal; they will need an awful lot of paint in Uganda to obliterate the names of Idi Amin Avenue, the Idi Amin Barracks, and Idi Amin Station on the day after that murdering madman is assassinated.

And the same goes for statuary, and possibly more so. Those who live by the monumental mason shall perish by the stonebreaker's yard; those who have to wait until they are long dead before their admirers enshrine them in stone are likely to last rather longer. I do not know what revolutions may come to Italy, but I cannot imagine one that would displace the Venetian statue of Goldoni from its place in the Campo S. Bartolomeo, or for that matter the Colleoni monu*ment from its noble position* in the Campo S. Zanipolo, for all that that is not where he stipulated it should be in the *will which also bequeathed his* entire fortune to Venice on condition that they should put his statue where he wanted it.

It is otherwise with Caesar, or at any rate Salazar. He ruled Portugal wickedly, and by his *rule came within inches of en*suring that an even wickeder rule would follow the overthrow of his regime. The *present government* there is not exactly the most stable on earth, but its leaders have weathered storms that would have sunk many a stout ship of state, and have the right to hope for *calmer waters now. Of course,* their rule will not be made either more difficult or more uncertain by allowing a handful *of irreconcilables, dreamers of* —in their own way—patriots to repair a statue of Dr Salazar in his, and their, home town (*mind you, this argument can* be taken too far—it would raise a few eyebrows if the people of Braunau on the Inn should announce that they were going to put up a statue to the man who certainly caused more stir in the world than any other native son of *that* town before or since), and I cannot imagine that a statue of Salazar in a small town in Portugal, even with its head on its shoulders, is going to become the focus of a subversive move*ment destined to sweep away* Portugal's frail democracy. But brave men fought Salazar and what he stood for, and some of them died at the *hands of his* jailers, and although it was worth cracked heads and bullet wounds, I can easily see why feelings ran *high against the* statue as well as for it.

In the end, Salazar's place in Portugal's history will be decided by history itself, and any statues of him that might survive will be preserved, or allowed to crumble into dust according to history's verdict. Many men have died during their lives, and not a few afterwards, to ensure that they were remembered until the end of time by causing monuments to be raised to their memory. One of them was called Ozymandias king of kings.

Nothing beside remains. Roun
the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boun
less and bare,
The lone and level sands stretc
far away.

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The headless statue of Salazar, as pictured in 'The Times' yesterday: those who live by the monumental mason shall perish by the stonebreaker's yard

Won't you be my 'Postal Parent'

for £4.33 a month?



Agnes Muthoni. Age 8. Africa

Mwakabanka. Age 10. Africa

Jar Narayan. Age Unknown. India

Hassan Gwati. Age Unknown. Africa

Agnes was born deaf and dumb. She had seven brothers and sisters. And her father is unable to provide adequately for the family. Mvukabanka is in Standard II and doing very well. But without aid of sponsorship his parents will be unable to keep him at school. Jar is a very poor Indian tribal boy. He is undernourished and inadequately clothed. His father is also too poor to pay for Jar's education. Hassan is one of four children. Although his parents try hard they find it *almost impossible to provide him with sufficient food and clothing.*

Without funds these children face a bleak future. Yet you can give them a chance. As a "Postal Parent" giving £4.33 a month you could enable us to provide a well-balanced diet, clothing and a practical training. And you could follow "your" child's progress through letters and news.

Write today to learn how EVERY SINGLE PENNY OF YOUR DONATION goes overseas to help a needy child.

ACTION IN DISTRESS WORKS WITH EXPERIENCED RELIEF ORGANISATIONS OVERSEAS INCLUDING: The Salvation Army; Catholic Relief Services; and the Church Missionary Society.

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Please tick for receipt ☐

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THE TIMES DIARY/ PHS

The facts and fantasy of Boz Day

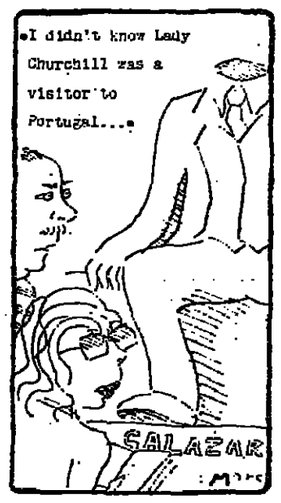
A relentless Dickensian, I must separate fantasy from fact in the celebrations being held today to mark the master's 166th birthday.

First, the fact. The Dickens Fellowship, custodians of good *taste in matters Bozian, hold* a dinner in London tonight at which someone who is going to write a book on Dickens (Mrs *Denis Healey) will be on top* table with someone who already has (Edgar Johnson).

Mrs Healey touched frequently on Dickens in her recent book about Angela Burdett Coutts, the philan*thropist; clearly she now feels* her supporting character is worth promoting to the leading role. Mr Johnson's bio*graphical work has already* appeared in twin volume form; now Allen Lane have got it down to a single volume, with a touch of revision here, and a spot of abridgment there.

Now, the fantasy. The Dickens *Inn stands hard by Tower* Bridge. It is a converted brewery, and has nothing whatever to do with Dickens apart from the fact that the young Charles, in the honest words of the inn's manager, Paul Bruggemann, "used to move around this area".

The fantasy extends into the inn's menu, which will doubtless be much consulted tonight. Jaggers's Favourite Dish (kidneys and bacon, basically) and Pumblechook's Breast of Chicken and Herbert Pocket's



Cockles and Mussels all raise great expectations which the book itself does not authenticate.

Fagin's Beef in Beer Sauce is a bit of a twist and *Peggotty's Herring Dish is more* copper-captain than Copperfield.

I commend the restraint shown by the Dickens Inn in not adding the suffix "à Sarah Gamp" to their Cream of Tomato Soup with Gin.

If Mr Bruggemann is really looking for an idea that will have Dickensians nudging each other knowingly, *or tapping the* sides of their noses in true Bozian style, I recommend to him Magwitch's Pork Pie. That *one is in the book.*

Short treatise on squash

My sports world watcher, who has not been known to miss any recent historic incident involving racket and ball, has told me a human interest story.

It *concerns* a Michael Edwardes who was seen ambling through the press room at Wembley Squash Centre at the weekend. He was *searching* for John Myers, the physiotherapist who was sorting out the ailments of competitors in the British Amateur Championships that ended last night.

Normally, Mr Myers is based *at the Tucker clinic* in Twickenham, which is handy for damaged Richmond squash players. One of these, the aforementioned Mr Edwardes, had made an urgent appointment to see him at Wembley.

I will keep you in suspense no longer. The man who had dislocated an elbow was the head of British Leyland. "But don't say the *shop* stewards did it", he said. "I did it myself, playing squash."

South African-born Mr Edwardes took up squash at Rhodes University. He denies, as wicked rumour has it, that *he is only 5ft 2in tall. He in*sists that he is 5ft 4½in which (so my specialist informant says) puts him in the same class as three of the greatest players in squash history—Abdel Fattah Amr and the brothers Hashim and Azam Khan.

Four tough competitors, says my pundit, but all of them would be invisible behind a 5ft *6in wall.*

The Sodom and Gomorrah tapes

Flushed with the success of its on-the-spot reports from Sodom and Gomorrah, and elsewhere Bible News is expanding its extraordinary coverage to the New Testament, I am pleased to disclose.

Bible News, which uses cassette recordings to make biblical history easily available to those who no longer read their Bibles, *launched the scheme* last year.

The first 10 biblical bulletins (on five cassettes, price £14.95) have sold so well that the New Testament series, called Jesus and the New Testament World, will be rushed out by the spring.

John Wagner, the British businessman who has master*minded the scheme, has just* returned from a deeply moving tour of the "bible belt" in the United States. He addressed delegates at the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

The biblical businessmen bought 500 sets of the first edition. These were then auctioned *from the rostrum* and raised $40,000 towards the building of a new association headquarters in California.

Mr Wagner reports: "It was an incredible and, for me, moving experience to see the hushed audience in the packed convention hall, listening intently to the tapes and then break into applause."

For those not acquainted with this religious innovation, I give an example: "Here is the news. . . . Thousands die in Canaan as *fire totally destroys the twin* cities of Sodom and Gomorrah in what is believed to be the worst conflagration. . . ."

Notice: Carry on noticing

The experts keep on insisting that the best editing in films, like the best musical score, is the kind you do not notice. I go along with them, but only part of the way. If they were wholly right there would be little point in the National Film Theatre putting on their season called Editors, which opens on March 5.

Their theory becomes untenable when *applied to such* a film as David Lean's *Summer Madness*, one of the NFT season's offerings, which has *both superb music* (by Sandro Cicognini) and skilful editing (by Peter Taylor). I suggest you forget about not noticing these qualities and, instead, enjoy the film *because* of them.

You should not worry, too, if you find yourself noticing the acting of Katharine Hepburn and the photography of Jack Hildyard. And if you should also happen to notice that Venice, the real star of *the film*, has never looked so beautiful on the screen, you should not allow yourself to feel hag-ridden by the film world intelligentsia.

Maxim's comes to London

Gourmets will be pleased to learn that Maxim's is sending a soupçon of its famous haute cuisine to London later this *month.* Staff from the celebrated Parisian restaurant have been invited to prepare the fare at the Inn on the Park's Four Seasons restaurant for one week.

The Filets de Sole Albert and the Crêpes Veuve Joyeuse are likely to be easier on the stomach than the pocket, however.

London gourmets will find that whereas £26 is normally enough to stave off the pangs of starvation for two at the Four Seasons, it will cost up to £6 for the privilege of Maxim's expertise. I am told that the ghosts of Franz Lehar and a thousand gypsy violinists will help the digestion.

M François Vaudable, whose family owns Maxim's, is bringing a team of four people—the chefs Leon Chagnel, Marc Besse, and Serge Gautheret, as well as *the maître d'hôtel, Alain Privat.* They will be working together with the Inn on the Park's own executive chef, Jean-Michel Bonin, and the restaurant manager, Luigi Zambon.

Guests will be greeted at the door of the Four Seasons by "chasseur" dressed in the traditional red and blue Maxim's uniform.

Maxim's was founded in 189 by a waiter called Maxime Gaillard and soon became one of the world's most opulent public places.

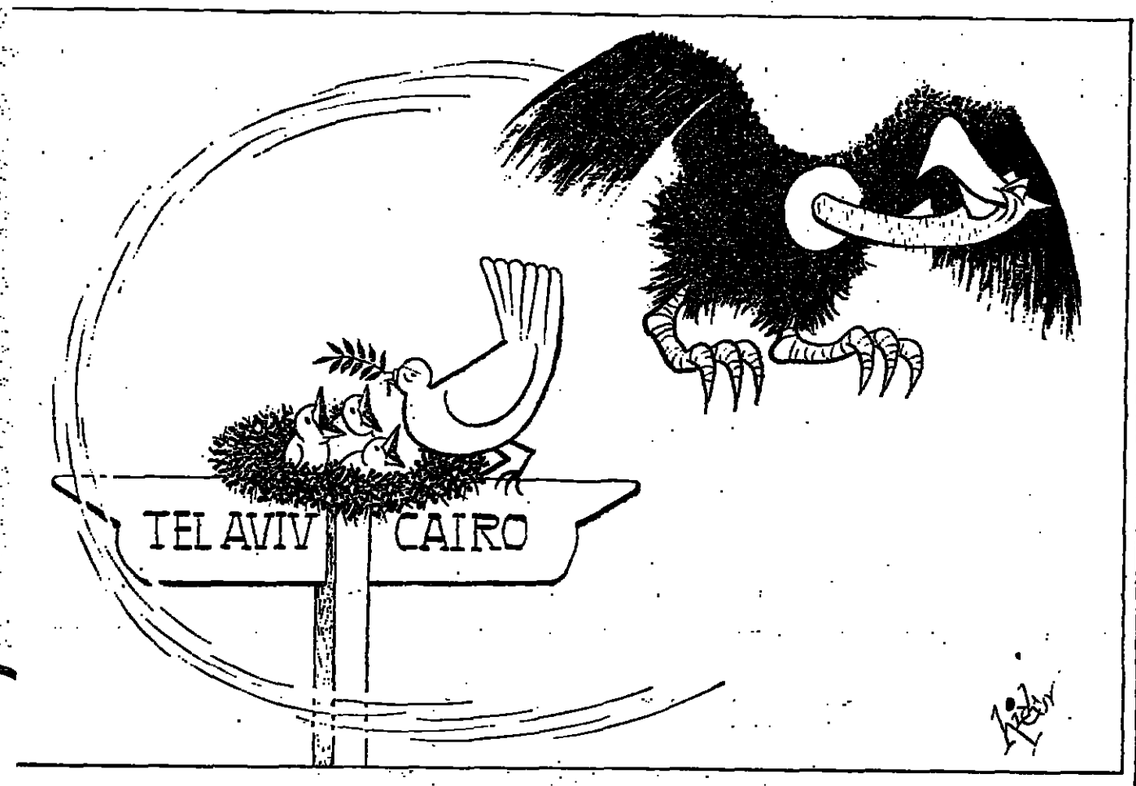
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Le Monde
LA STAMPA
THE TIMES
DIE WELT

Europa



Israel seeks EEC help to beat the boycott

Malcolm Brown

iel is intensifying efforts to ruit Europe to the anti-boy- cause. The Arab countries e been using economic wea- is against Israel ever since state came into being. But use of the boycott, under ch firms outside the Middle t can be denied access to markets if they do cer- kinds of business with el, did not begin to hurt Israeli economy until the 1970s when the oil price d increased enormously economic and political igth of the Arabs.

e Economic Warfare ority in Jerusalem, set up 975 to coordinate action d wide against the boycott, ves that the time is ripe a common front between United States and Europe st the boycott and that should be achieved gh the European Econo- Community. The United s introduced tough new oycott laws last summer.

e heat has not been taken f the subject by the Egyp- sraeli peace talks; in- deed, if anything, the peace dialogue has increased concern because of the fear that the rejectionist states in the Middle East will tighten the boy- cott even further to show their displeasure with Presi- dent Sadat and Mr Begin.

The lobbying now taking place in Europe is being done discreetly. Israel is intent on recruiting EEC help to beat the boycott, but is rather hesit- ant about the means, lest an ill-chosen strategy should back- fire; the EEC, while stating quite unambiguously that it is opposed to the boycott, also appears to be treading rather cautiously. After the quadru- pling of oil prices, it recog- nizes the strength of the Arab oil weapon and realizes Europe's vulnerability as a big oil consumer.

The EEC, in statements on the cooperative agreements which it has signed with several of the Arab League countries, has underlined its opposition to the boycott. But Israel wants something a good deal stronger than this. The most obvious line of action would be some form of legisla- tive initiative by the EEC effectively outlawing the boy- cott. But this is out of the question, at least for the moment. Such a move would require agreement by all member states. Most European countries are showing little enough inclination to act indi- vidually against the boycott, let alone in concert.

Britain has been among the weakest of the EEC countries in its reaction to the boycott, and even though an anti-boy- cott Bill has already had a second reading in the House of Lords, no one would give too much for its chances of getting on the statute book. West Ger- many is stronger than most other EEC countries in efforts to counter the boycott through diplomatic channels, but shows no signs of being willing to promote federal legislation on the subject.

Even if Britain and Germany could be persuaded to join an EEC initiative, however, it appears extremely unlikely that the French would be co- operative.

France has been looking both ways on this issue. In the summer of last year the French Parliament adopted by an overwhelming majority a law which among other things forbade compliance with boy- cotts. But almost before the ink had dried on the legisla- tion the French Government, using a get-out clause incor- porated in the law itself, pub- lished a directive which effec- tively nullified the law's effects in the Middle East. The directive said that the law should not apply to guarantees given by the Foreign Trade In- surance Commission, a state controlled body, for Middle East contracts.

EEC studies do, however, open up another, perhaps more promising possibility—the use of Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty of Rome, which cover interference with free competi- tion and abuses of dominant market position. In November 1976 the EEC Commission reaf- firmed its opposition to boy- cotts and said that where Arti- cles 85 and 86 were violated the Commission was empow- ered to impose fines and to penalize the firms concerned.

There are three types of boycott operated by the Arab League countries through the Boycott Office in Damascus. The primary boycott simply forbids Arabs to trade with Israel in any way. The second- ary and tertiary boycotts bring third parties into the dispute between the Arabs and Israel. Under the secondary boycott companies outside Israel or the Arab states which violate the boycott regulations laid down by Damascus—either by invest- ing in Israel or by entering into certain categories of busi- ness with the country—can be blacklisted, which effectively means they are banned from doing business with Arab League nations. The tertiary boycott, taking the whole operations a stage further, penalizes those which do busi- ness with blacklisted firms.

The EEC has no interest in the primary boycott which is regarded as a legitimate form of economic warfare between two disputants. But the Commission is disturbed by actions which carry the boycott into Europe through the black- listing procedure. It is felt that this might give cause to res- traints on trade. For example, one EEC firm supplying an Arab buyer might state that he would not purchase spare parts from another community firm which was blacklisted. This could, in certain circumstances, contravene Article 85.

While not themselves acti- vely seeking out instances of such action, EEC officials have been making it clear that they would be very interested in in- vestigating such a case should it be brought to their attention. This means that the initiative now lies firmly with the anti- boycott movement.

Still haunted by inflation

Mr Igal Hurwitz has been the Israeli Minister for Industry and Tourism since Mr Begin formed his Government at the end of June last year. A hearty, self-made man, in his fifties, he made his mark through his ability to resuscitate failed companies. Before joining the Government he had led a group of dairy produce businesses, among other interests. Politically, he has been a disciple of Ben Gurion from the start. Mr Hurwitz is interviewed here by Georges Levy.

In Mr Begin's Government, which has taken a different direction from what is called "Israeli socialism", you are one of the champions of economic liberalism. How do you see the state's role in a liberal economy and how do you intend to achieve your growth objectives while at the same time reducing government intervention?

The all-powerful bureaucracy of previous governments ultimately discouraged private enterprise. Reduction of government intervention and abatement—or even abolition—of exchange controls are undoubtedly going to stimulate investment from both domestic and foreign sources, thereby creating the conditions for a resurgence in growth based on private rather than public investment.

This said, it must not be forgotten that bureaucracy is not the main obstacle to investment. The scourge of inflation can mean that investment is an insufficiently profitable proposition to private entrepreneurs. One of our main worries is the rate of inflation in this country in relation to the other countries with which we are in competition; this will determine the attractiveness of producing in Israel.

The level of prices is to a certain extent determined by wages, which are themselves conditioned by the pressure of wage and other labour claims. In other words government policy in this field will have a decisive influence on the inflation rate in 1978. A high rate cannot fail to depress exports and investment. We therefore have to do everything possible to prevent a repetition this year of the 40 per cent increase in prices experienced in 1977.

●

How do you propose to set about this, bearing in mind that the present system of labour relations and the country's chronic proneness to strikes are factors which frighten foreign investors?

It is true that the present labour relations system represents a disincentive to investors. Our workers must understand this. In such a situation, unemployment is just around the corner. I hope that our principal trade union organization, the Histadrut, is aware of this problem. I am certain that it must be, being itself at the head of a large sector of the economy. The only possible solution lies in the conclusion of a pact between the Histadrut, the Government and the employers to neutralize inflationary factors completely.

Bringing back orderly labour relations will not be enough in itself. How do you intend to encourage investment?

Provided the inflation rate comes down sufficiently in 1978, we intend to give encouragement through a new capital investment code. This code, which the Knesset will shortly be asked to ratify, is much simpler than those in force under earlier governments and the benefits offered to Israeli and foreign private investors will be generous.

What is more, Israel has substantial unused productive capacity. The apparatus of industrial production is available in sufficient quantity. I think that, as long as our manufacturers are successful in adapting their products to the quality requirements of the European and American markets, we can look forward to a significant rise in exports to those countries.

Your exporters complain bitterly about the Government's abolition of all export premiums and, moreover, about the unfavourable exchange rate of the Israeli pound. What action do you intend to take to encourage exports, which are supposed to provide the main stimulus for growth during 1978?

Let me first point out the gratifying fact that most of our exports have not been affected by the abolition of subsidies, nor by the over-valuation of the Israeli pound. Moreover, this proves that our products are capable of contending with foreign competition. The new economic programme also aims to eliminate all measures providing artificial protection for our exports.

Israeli exporters must take the plunge in the markets of Europe and the United States. Clearly, uncompetitive industries will inevitably suffer. Some firms may even have to close, but I think that most will be able to switch to other fields and the state will help them to do so. This is the price that has to be paid to restore order in the Israeli economy.

To what extent is the Israel-EEC agreement a factor in the recovery of the Israeli economy?

Since the agreements came into force in 1975, our exports to the EEC countries have risen by 30 per cent, from $724m in 1975 to $883m in 1976 and $874m in the first 10 months of 1977, so that it may be surmised that the total for last year was in the region of $1,000m. The breakdown of these exports is roughly as follows: one third in industrial goods, one third in agricultural produce and one third in diamonds.

The agreement with the European Community is therefore important to Israel and, considered overall, is favourable to us. However, it will in all probability be necessary to review some aspects of this agreement, with some adjustments here and there, in particular regarding its industrial and financial provisions.

Our exports to the United States in 1977 amounted to $600m, a substantial figure which I think we could double or even treble. Nevertheless these agreements are no more than an operational framework for our exports. They will bring benefits to our exporters only if their products are competitive, and this means better labour relations in Israel.

●

Since a considerable section of Israel's industry is working directly or indirectly to supply the country's defence needs, would not a transition from a "war economy" to a "peace-time economy" necessitate a painful shake-out in industry which could increase the risks of unemployment considerably?

Peace in the Middle East, when it comes, will place us in a new economic environment and we shall have to adjust our economy accordingly. This will not present any special problems, however. Israel's defence oriented industries, notably the aeronautical industry, employ some of the best brains in the country and I am convinced that they will have no difficulty in switching to other areas. Moreover, most of the assembly lines in our armaments and aeronautical industries, which incidentally are highly competitive, could easily be adapted to new requirements.

Despite the efforts made over the past 30 years, most of Israel's population is still concentrated on the coast and in Jerusalem. Do you have any specific plans to encourage people to settle in Galilee and the Negev?

We have to get away from the conventional methods attempted in the past and seek more original, even revolutionary, solutions. It is essential to improve the geographical distribution of the population. Some areas present particular problems, for instance, those with a low Jewish population density, which call for special consideration. I for my part have plans which I intend to submit to the Government—far-reaching proposals which include substantial material incentives to attract people in large numbers to settle in Galilee and the Negev.

Under the 1978 budget, 63 per cent of expenditure is to be given over to defence and repayment of domestic and foreign debt. In other words only 37 per cent will remain to cover economic and social spending altogether. This being the case, how do you hope to make progress this year in reducing social inequality?

For the time being we can neither cut our defence budget—for obvious reasons—nor reduce the repayment of debt, since the Government's performance in this latter respect will determine its financial credibility. As for the rest, an order of priorities has to be established.

In my own view, our first objective must be to develop our economy through long-term projects which will secure our future. This means that we must cut spending which is not directly aimed at increasing production. In the last analysis, the key question confronting us is whether we wish to invest our resources or consume them. I sincerely hope that education, health and social security will not suffer, but our budget resources are meagre and, until the two biggest heads of expenditure (defence and debt servicing) can be reduced, we shall have to make the most of what we have at our disposal.

In the event of a peace involving Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, do you think that the economic ties between Judaea-Samaria and Israel will be maintained and that the manpower resources from the West Bank will still be available to the Israeli labour market?

Today the frontiers between the state of Israel and Judaea-Samaria are open and the two economies are fully integrated. Some 60,000 workers from Judaea-Samaria and Gaza are permanently employed in Israel and there is no reason why this situation should not continue whatever political settlement is reached in respect of this region.

I am convinced that an independent Palestinian state will never see the light of day and consequently that there will be no artificial political frontiers between Israel and Judaea-Samaria. I believe that economic cooperation should not be limited to the provision of manpower, but be developed in all sectors—agriculture, industry, tourism—for the benefit of all.

●

Still thinking in terms of the prospect of peace, which remains a possibility despite the ups and downs of the negotiations, do you see anything complementary between the Egyptian and Israeli economies and would there be scope for joint exploitation of industrial, energy and tourist resources in the region?

If peace comes—and that is still a moot question—I am convinced that our two countries will derive enormous advantages from it. I believe in the possibility of joint projects financed by capital drawn from the two countries. I also believe in the use of our advanced technical knowledge in agriculture and industry which will be offered enormous scope by the vast market which Egypt represents.

Peace would also bring a boom in tourism. Indeed Egyptian investors in the tourist and other industries would be able to take advantage of the major concessions granted under Israeli law. We are even prepared to offer them the opportunity to invest in existing profitable concerns.

Elsewhere, I see no reason why our experts in cooperative organization, whose skills have become well known, particularly in agriculture and who help many countries in the Third World, should not also give Egypt the benefit of their experience. I want to emphasize that I do not see cooperation as a one-way process, but as a means of making the best use of the economic potentials of both our countries.

On the contrary

Eleventh-hour decision

erday, Today and Tomorrow agreed to t to discuss the progress of Europe. It was difficult to arrange: Yesterday usually had nt business elsewhere; Today was always ing off in a hurry; and Tomorrow tended rn up late. But finally they managed it—opping the clock.

Vell, I don't know", Yesterday said. "It s to me that we did very well. We started the dullest things imaginable—coal and . We survived the defeat of the European . We relaunched Europe at Messina with EC and Euratom. We outlived General ulle. And we got the British, Danes and in."

uite right", said Today gloomily. "But ad an easy job. People remembered the they were afraid of further conflict; and conomy was booming. Besides, all you did was set up a customs union."

was harder than you think", snapped rday. "And at least we were realistic. idn't go round ranting about direct elec- to the European Parliament, economic nonetary union, and bringing in three new member states. The trouble with that you're hopelessly over-ambitious."

onsense!" shouted Today; "We're . . ." Tomorrow interrupted them. "Quiet, you he said sternly. "I've got other things on nd. A meeting of the European Cabinet, he Joint Chiefs of Staff, then the Euro- Federal Reserve, and then a meeting to s this new World Resources Community. e me if I run."

n he started the clock again, it began to 11.

PANGLOSS

Architect of the impossible

by Philippe Lemaître

Signor Lorenzo Natali, the 55-year-old Christian Democrat deputy for the Abruzzi, is the member of the EEC Commission who has the task of overseeing everything closely or remotely connected with the future enlargement of the Community—an enormous job fraught with potential pitfalls, as he has already had opportunity to discover.

There is a natural temptation for his colleagues and member governments to blame the responsible commissioner for the inevitable setbacks of an impossible portfolio: "enlargement of the Community is indispensable politically and daunting economically". No one in the Community has yet found a reasonable way of reconciling the two sides of the problem and, to a certain extent, Signor Natali is being made the scapegoat.

The Commission had undertaken to submit an overall report on the enlargement of the EEC to the foreign ministers by last October. One evening in Luxembourg, with the deadline almost upon them, they made a hasty examination of a draft proposed by Signor Natali in which he reiterated the harsh truth of the matter: to bring enlargement to fruition without accentuating the shortcomings and difficulties of the Community as now composed and without mortgaging its future will be an extremely delicate and costly operation which will succeed only if meticulously planned and kept under constant supervision.

Signor Natali's colleagues, irritated by a report which, short of sugaring the pill, could not have been other than unsatisfactory, concluded that it was poorly framed and that, after all, it was not absolutely essential to submit a policy document to the Council of Ministers. "The report may well have been badly written", Signor Natali commented with a smile, "but the fundamental ideas got home." And indeed Mr Roy Jenkins, the President in a face-saving address to the ministers, repeated the main ideas set out in the report.

"There are no fundamental differences between us on the problems posed by the accession of Greece, Portugal and Spain", Signor Natali observed, adding with insidious but incisive perspicacity that "if there are any, they are to do with our understanding of what the EEC itself means to us". In fact there are some commissioners who are anxious to promote enlargement, because the possible watering-down of the Community into a free trade area is not a prospect that worries them—far from it.

It would take a good deal more than this kind of backbiting from some of his colleagues to discomfit this old campaigner of Italian politics, a close friend of Signor Amintore Fanfani and, as a former minister of agriculture, a man well versed in the cut-and-thrust of Community affairs. Although perhaps not conspicuous for his ideological convictions, he is a tactician not to be expected to allow himself to be hemmed in by his portfolio to the advantage of others.

The present trend in thinking bears out his approach. Few people are prepared to claim that the Community will emerge unscathed from enlargement or to deny that the accession of new members will put back hopes of the cohesion and autonomy of a united Europe. However unexhilarating, this is the reality with which we have to come to terms. Only a few weeks ago such realism was being rejected by people—commissioners and ministers alike—who, for all the repeated setbacks of the EEC, are curiously intolerant of those who refer to it in other than glowing terms.

After his current tour of European capitals, Signor Natali, having asked for and got the support which he knows he needs from the member states, will be ready to write the substantive document which everyone expects of him—and this time to win acceptance of it from his colleagues.

It will contain a few uncomplicated ideas. For reasons both political and economic, agricultural problems are most important but, if all the member states show willing, they are not insoluble. The pre-accession idea is doomed, first because it counts out real participation by the applicant countries in political decisions concerning Community life—which they want as soon as possible—and second because its corollary, a sort of Marshall Plan for the benefit of the applicant countries, would not work. What is needed, Signor Natali emphasizes, is substantial financial transfers, but even more important, an aid programme closely geared to the aims of integration.

Luxembourg

1000 Years of History
100 Castles
10 Different Wines

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Facts and figures

Economies still mediocre and uncertain

by Maurice Bommensath

Scrutiny of the most recent set of results for output points up once again the mediocrity and uncertainty of the economic situation. Even West Germany's industrial production, which had seemed to be on the point of rapid improvement, has remained rather flat. This was despite the growing signs of an improvement, with a sharp rise in orders during November (now up by some 14 per cent since the low point in July) and a slight increase in unfilled vacancies, which usually augurs well.

At the same time much apprehension has been caused by the way the dollar has fallen, pushing up the Deutsche mark to new heights. If recent surveys are to be believed, wage costs in West Germany are now the highest in the world, having outstripped those in the United States, with Japan and France for instance well behind.

In the face of this national danger, the trade unions and employers have resumed consultations after their disagreement over legislation on workers' participation. The Germans' reaction is to keep an even closer watch on costs and place further emphasis on wage moderation with the aim of safeguarding the competitive position of their products.

In France, after the decline of recent months, output has risen slightly. But stagnation will continue at least until the spring, when a slight recovery is forecast by the statistical institute. At their last meeting, the French employers came out in favour of vigorous expansion to produce a growth rate of between 5 per cent and 6 per cent, with a redeployment of resources in new sectors.

According to their thesis, this cannot be achieved without the removal of the administrative constraints restricting industrialists, particularly the "French style" price controls blamed for the collapse of several industries, such as papermaking.

At all events the gyrations of the dollar seem to be having a far less disruptive effect in France than in West Germany. To judge from the franc's position at a halfway house between the dollar and the Deutsche mark, France would seem on balance to be better off, with cheaper oil imports and greater profits from exports to West Germany.

Britain's case is entirely different, with its currency being pushed upwards every bit as fast as the Deutsche mark and the yen. This is an interesting development in certain respects, since it has provided a great boost to efforts to combat inflation, which are still proving highly successful with prices rising at barely 6 per cent.

Austerity is beginning to pay off. For the first time in many months real purchasing power started to rise again during the last quarter of 1977. Companies have also seen an appreciable improvement in profits and are expecting to step up investment by 20 per cent in 1978.

Do these developments foreshadow a real recovery? The British hope that they do and that it will come in 1978—spontaneously and, if necessary, as the Government has promised, with a helping hand from further tax relief (in exchange for undertakings on wage restraint; to avoid slipping back into bad habits). Further grounds for optimism are to be found in the year-end report which the Government can present: a balance of payments surplus (£59m) for the first time since 1972 and foreign currency reserves in excess of $20,000m, which place Britain in the top bracket, alongside West Germany, Japan and Saudi Arabia. The problem now is to use this North Sea manna as quickly and as wisely as possible to rebuild industry.

If Britain can look forward to early improvements, the same is unfortunately not true of Italy. Nevertheless the improvement in the country's external position is well under way and it, too, can point to a $1,600m balance of payments surplus, the first for five years, while the lira has recovered from the setback sparked off by the political crisis.

However, alongside these altogether respectable financial results, Italy's economic performance remains disappointing, with a 6 per cent fall in growth (although it picked up slightly in December) and unemployment at a very high level (7.5 per cent). These poor figures will perhaps have the saving grace of persuading the unions and political parties to behave more responsibly and convincing them of the urgent need to find a solution to the crisis.

Whereas none of the four European countries is willing or able to break away from declining or stagnating growth (even West Germany, in the person of Chancellor Schmidt, has recently rejected expansionist measures once again), the other two leading Western countries, Japan and the United States, have now taken action. On January 13 they signed an armistice to end the bitter economic and monetary hostilities between them and this seems to signal a turning point in Japanese economic policy.

Japan is no longer able to count on exports, nor on a rapid rise in spending by consumers for whom frugality is a way of life, nor of course on industrial investment at a time of surplus capacity and bankruptcies, so that it is obliged to fall back on other ways of restoring balance to its threatened economy. Hence the massive budget deficit, representing 37 per cent of revenue, brought about by a sharp increase in spending on public works. It is hoped that the financing of this programme will soak up the surplus in savings, which are still running at the extraordinary level of 25 per cent of the national income although investment has plummeted to 13 per cent. However, Japanese experts and industrialists are sceptical about these government projects.

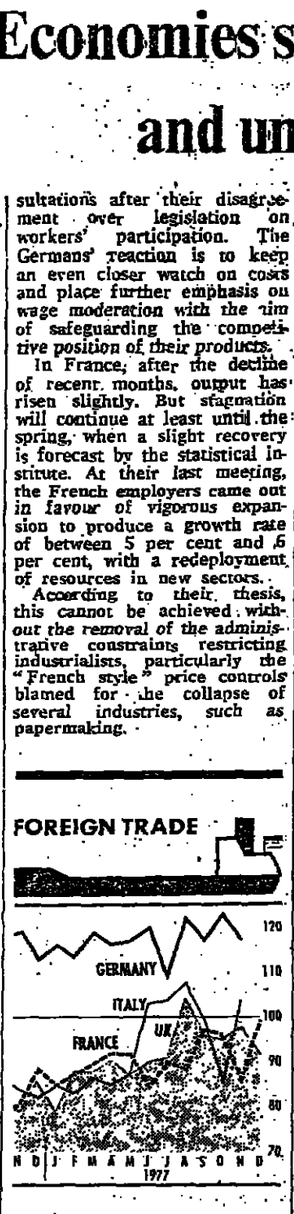
The Americans are similarly sceptical in their attitude to the promises by President Carter, whose popularity has fallen off considerably according to recent opinion polls (an Associated Press survey found that 57 per cent of the American people described their President as average or bad). For all this, the economic results achieved in 1977 were not inconsiderable; indeed they were good enough to make the European countries envious—up up by 4.9 per cent (compared with 2.4 per cent in West Germany and 2.7 per cent in France), unemployment substantially reduced with the creation of four million jobs, inflation down to 5 per cent. The situation would be highly satisfactory, were it not for the showing on one other vital front: the trade balance.

There can be no doubt that these achievements have been seriously compromised by the long series of errors of judgment punctuating the Carter team's record. Will they be able to come to grips with a situation which is now deteriorating again? The growth rate is in jeopardy, as witness the most recent figures for industrial output (only 0.2 per cent in December, while in addition those for October and November have been revised down to 0.2 per cent and 0.4 per cent respectively); investment in 1978 will be lower than forecast (up by 4.5 per cent only); inflation is threatening again, to judge by the acceleration in wholesale prices and interest rates are rising (the prime rate is at 8 per cent).

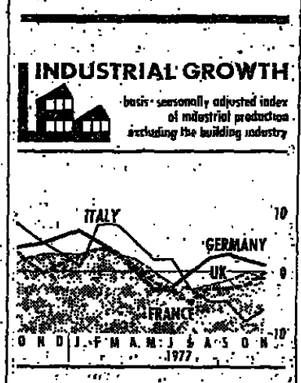
The action envisaged by the United States Administration, such as the $25,000m tax cuts or the new support for the dollar under the "swop" agreements concluded with the Bundesbank, will only be effective if White House policy commands the confidence of the American people and others in the West.



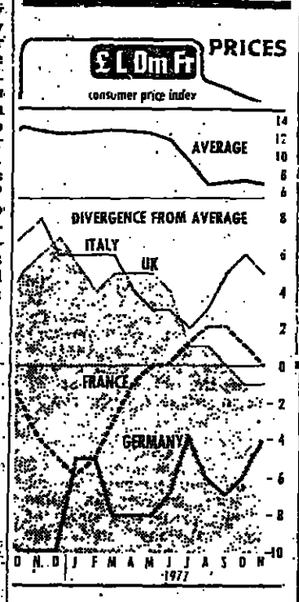
Unemployment: December saw a fall in seasonally-adjusted unemployment as a percentage of the working population. The improvement was marginal in West Germany (from 4.5 per cent to 4.45 per cent) and in Britain (from 6.1 per cent to 6.05 per cent) but substantial (from 5.4 per cent to 5.15 per cent) in France, which has recorded its fourth consecutive monthly fall.



Foreign Trade: Seasonally-adjusted cover of imports by exports is almost unchanged in West Germany (120 per cent) and Britain (still about 100 per cent despite December's slight deficit), while it has recovered strongly in France from November's anomalous figure (86 per cent) to 99 per cent in December and similarly in Italy between October and November (from 86 per cent to 104 per cent).



Growth Rate: The decline in industrial output appears to be levelling off in Britain (-1 per cent) in France (nil growth) and even in Italy (-6 per cent). The West German recovery remains unspectacular (+1 per cent to 2 per cent).



Prices: After last month's rise to 7.4 per cent, the average rate of inflation in the four countries has fallen back to 6.8 per cent. The main credit for this goes to France, where the rate is now below 8 per cent. Little change in Britain (6 per cent) or West Germany (between 1 per cent and 2 per cent), but no clear trend in Italy where November was bad and December better.

	Rate of growth	Quality of growth		Maintenance of growth		
Excellent ●●● Good ●● Fairly good ● Poor ○ Bad ○○ Very bad ○○○ Prev. performance □		Prices	Unemployment	Productive capacity	Foreign trade	Vulnerability to external factors
GERMANY	● □	● ●● □	○ □	● □	●●● □	● □
FRANCE	○ □	○ □	○ □	○ □	●● □	● □
ITALY	○ □	○○ □	○○ □	○ □	●● □	● □
BRITAIN	○ □	● □	○○ □	● □	●● □	●● □

Cocoa market a playground for speculators

by Leo Fischer

"Buy a contract on the New York cocoa market", said the great Winfield. "The price of cocoa drops three cents, and I lose money". I replied. "How can the cocoa price go down?" the great Winfield countered.— The Great Money Game, by "Adam Smith".

This dialogue was quoted by a commentator writing under the pseudonym of the classical economist back in 1954, when the Wall Street brokers, faced with a lack of opportunities on the stock market, were investigating the other types of market and discovered cocoa. It could equally well have been heard last summer: pickings were lean on Wall Street, while prices on the New York cocoa market were reaching new record levels every day. On July 18 the price of cocoa on the London Commodity Exchange was a record £3,128 a ton (secondhand). This represented a more than four-fold increase in 18 months.

The speculators, who played a large part in this boom, suffered the same fate as "Adam Smith's" 1954 characters, who made early profits only to lose their original stake—and more besides. During the second half of last year the cocoa price collapsed, dropping in six months to £1,610.50.

How is it that prices can vary so erratically in such a short time? The answer is that the cocoa market is basically a playground for speculators, who revel in a market where there is little firm information, and dealings accordingly reflect every change in hopes and expectations. The large speculative element is a major reason for the enormous fluctuations in prices.

The price rise began back in 1975, as a result of a shortage of cocoa for immediate purchase. This was followed by hold-ups in unloading in the Port of London, and reports from African producers of supply difficulties. As a result, supplies to Europe and the United States were sporadic. It is still not clear whether these supply problems were genuine or whether shortages were because of deliberate holding back by suppliers. Whether or not the situation was engineered, the producer countries took full advantage of it, and even sold part of the 1977-78 crop while prices were at their peak.

There were, at the time, rumours (possibly deliberately disseminated) that the coming cocoa harvest was going to be disastrous. In the event, production did drop back to 1,330,000 tons after the bumper crop of 1,510,000 tons in 1975-76. Panic buying by manufacturers who needed immediate supplies, and the intervention of the speculators together sent prices soaring.

In the second half of 1977, however, it gradually became clear that what many had already suspected was true. The real situation, shown by figures for production and consumption, did not justify any increase in prices in the face of a recurrent production surplus in 1977-78.

The London cocoa traders Gill and Duffus, whose views are seriously regarded by the market, forecast the 1977-78 crop at 1,464,000 tons (+9.3 per cent)—a crop of 1,500,000 tons is regarded as a good year. More than two thirds of this comes from Ghana (320,000 tons), the Ivory Coast (255,000), Brazil (249,000) and Nigeria (220,000).

Almost all cocoa comes from developing countries, but the major consumers are the industrialized nations. Consumption is measured by the figures for grindings: Gill and Duffus estimates these in 1977 at 1,370,000 tons, the lowest figure since 1970. For the crop year 1977-78 the equivalent forecast is 1,350,000 tons, 4.3 per cent lower than 1976-77 and 11.2 per cent lower than 1975-76. After allowing for losses in storage, this implies a surplus of production of 99,000 tons.

Grindings in the biggest consumer country, the United States, fell 5 per cent in 1977 to 183,700 tons—even lower than Gill and Duffus had forecast. In West Germany, the second largest consumer, grindings rose against all expectations by 1.2 per cent to 142,293 tons.

Even this last bit of good news, which emerged in the middle of last month, could not stem the downward trend of cocoa prices in the face of overwhelming negative influences: the rise in the price of chocolate, together with the growth of interest in slimming and health, brought about a stagnation in demand (producer prices had risen 6 per cent in West Germany in the first half of 1977, and the retail price of chocolate in the United Kingdom rose 20 per cent in the same period). And chocolate is the most important use for cocoa.

The leading merchants and brokers are wary about price forecasting. In their latest commodities review for this year, the London brokers Eurocharts dismiss as an impossibility serious price forecasting in the cocoa market. This is largely because of the policy of the African producer countries on information: there is a suspicion on the London and New York cocoa markets that these countries are trying to conceal the true production figures to keep prices at least at present levels.

This level is high: from 1970 to the beginning of the price rise in 1975 the London cocoa price remained between £350 and £750. This is another reason why most brokers believe that prices will continue to fall. But chocolate lovers cannot hope for early price reductions. Chocolate being manufactured now is made from cocoa bought at peak prices.

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4. ***Manufacturing and service industries.***
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6. ***A rich automotive market.***
85% own or operate one or more passenger cars and over half of them intend to purchase a new car within 12 months. 73% of those who operate a company car select its make. 39% are involved in fleet purchases of trucks, cars and trailers for their companies.

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THE ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Firms upset by uniform secrecy rules

by Hans Baumann

The Council of the European Communities has completed a package to go before the ministers of the Nine for embodiment in legislation, dealing with the disclosure required of Europe's companies. This will affect the European equivalents of the British public companies limited by shares or guarantee—in West Germany the Aktiengesellschaft, the Kommanditgesellschaft auf Aktien and the Gesellschaft mit beschraenkter Haftung; in France the Société Anonyme and the Société en commandite par actions; and in Italy the Società per azioni and the Società in accomandita per azioni.

The council is seeking to achieve greater comparability of the various European forms of public companies, and also to increase the information available. In 18 months, the finances of European companies will be open to inspection as never before. Business opinion is naturally disturbed at this frontal attack on corporate secrecy, particularly in Italy, France and Britain. West Germany is farthest along the road to the council's ideas and proposed legislation on disclosure, but even here there is much controversy over the council's Clause 4 which would include the Gesellschaft mit beschraenkter Haftung in its scope.

West German critics point out that 90 per cent of such companies have assets of less than 1m units of account, and a further 5 per cent have assets between 1m and 3m UAs. The same standards cannot be made to apply to these businesses as to the larger corporations. Since opinion in the rest of Europe agrees on this, it seems likely that these smaller companies can expect less stringent requirements.

But there are also differences over accounting methods in Europe: West Germany is balking at the council's recommendation that company assets should be valued at replacement cost. While this is a familiar concept in the other eight Community countries, the West German administration still insists on historic cost accounting. Business opinion in West Germany, generally, would be pleased to see replacement cost accounting introduced, removing the need to make provision for losses arising from inflation. The administration maintains that inflation must be opposed, rather than being built in to the tax structure. This point of view will be firmly adhered to at the ministerial level.

The stumbling block in Clause 4 is Article 41, with its 14 requirements for European companies:

1. In future, the method of valuation used must be shown, either in the annual report or in a footnote to the accounts, as must the accounting methods used in adjusting valuations. Assets in foreign currencies must show the exchange rates used for conversion. This has not been the practice throughout Europe until now.
2. The name and registered office of holders of 10 per cent or more of the capital of another company must be given, together with that company's capital and the size of the shareholding. The company's reserves and last year's results must also be given.
3. Where the company has authorized capital, the annual financial statement must state how much of this has been issued (number of shares and nominal value).
4. The type of shares involved must be shown as well as their nominal value.
5. Where the firm issues dividend-right certificates, convertible bonds or similar securities, the amount of these must be shown together with the rights involved.
6. This requires companies to state the amount of their liabilities with a term of more than five years, and the amount of liabilities secured against physical assets, and also the nature of such liabilities.
7. All financial liabilities not shown in the balance sheet must also be disclosed, so far as these are relevant for assessing the company's financial situation. Liabilities for pensions and for associated companies must be separately shown.
8. This requires a breakdown of net turnover by type of product, as set out in Article 25 of Clause 4, and also by company division and geographical breakdown of the market. The contribution of each market and product category to the annual results must be shown separately. This provision has caused a great flurry among the big companies. Such a breakdown of turnover by market and product group can provide competitors with considerable insight into the state of business. If, for instance, a company is attempting to break into a new market, its competitors would be able to see its market position from the annual statement, and take appropriate countermeasures. The British delegation is to put forward a revised version of this section at the ministerial session.
9. Employment during the annual period and salaries must be shown broken down into categories.
10. Taxes must be shown according to operating results, financial results and any unusual results.
11. The report must also show what part of the annual result is not liable for tax.
12. In future the difference must be shown between the provision for tax in the profit-and-loss account and the tax liability for the year, where this is relevant for assessing the amount of future tax.
13. This provision is aimed at increasing the information on the income of directors of large companies. In future the total income of members of the board, as well as pensions to past members, must be shown. In a number of countries it is already the practice to publish total emoluments to directors, but this will in future have to be broken down according to the type of director (supervisory board, for instance).
14. Besides fees, other forms of payment to directors must be shown in future, as well as advances and loans. The persons concerned must be shown, together with repayments during the current year. Where the company acts as guarantor for such persons, this must also be shown.

Article 11 requires companies to show, either under liabilities or in a footnote to the accounts, what guarantees have been entered into, broken down by the types of guarantees (depending on the laws of the individual country). In addition, the collateral involved must be shown. Guarantees relating to associate companies must also be shown in detail.

All this will result in the accounts—and hence the operations—of the big European companies becoming more open to analysis. With increased comparability more precise comparisons will become possible within the European economy, creating opportunities for new joint ventures. The increase in disclosure will result in looser frontiers within the communities.

صكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

How ambitions vary among four of a kind

by Jacqueline Grapin

With unemployment as high as it is, it may be slightly provoking to draw attention to the satisfaction which some people derive from their jobs. Work is one of the least evenly shared things in the world, not only quantitatively but also qualitatively. For some it gives meaning and interest to life and for others it offers nothing but permanent boredom, while there is a whole range of intermediate situations between the upper and lower extremes of the satisfaction scale.

What is more, the various jobs occupy different positions in this scale from one country to another, even in Europe where lifestyles and social structures seem fairly similar when compared with those in remoter countries. Despite the subjectivity of the information on which it is based, we have tried to make our "social prestige" comparison between the four countries represented in the *Europa* group as methodical as possible.

First, which are the most sought-after professions in our four countries? Doctor, senior manager, university professor, senior public servant, barrister, say the French, who also have some regard for performing artists and top sportsmen, although not to the extent of wanting to step into their shoes. Doctor, sportsman, politician, senior public servant, company director, say the Italians, and in this ranking they already differ from the French who readily express a measure of contempt for politicians, giving no indication that a career in politics features among their ambitions for their children.

It is true, however, that they willingly see them as senior public servants and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration has become an established stepping-stone to power. But for a long time even minor public servants (in the postal service, the railways and elsewhere) have enjoyed the prestige of secure employment. In Italy on the other hand public servants in the lower grades stand only just above farm labourers (the lowest of all), road sweepers, cleaners and unskilled building workers in the prestige rankings.

Doctors who head the list in West Germany as well as in Italy and France, do not enjoy comparable status in Britain. If this is the result of the nationalization of medicine, it tends to prove that doctors' prestige derives not only from their skills in bringing relief to the sick, but also from the level of independence and income that they enjoy.

In Britain careers in business are most sought after, despite the complaints of managers about the treatment they are receiving from the Labour Government. A recent survey carried out among a group of students shows that, even in a period of relative economic crisis, this preference still holds good. Business and industry attract about one student in four and only university-level fundamental research enjoys more prestige, which perhaps explains the number of British Nobel Prize winners since the war. Teaching and public service come next, followed in the students' ranking by business management and accountancy.

In West Germany doctors and university professors are at the top along with business leaders, barristers, engineers, politicians, pilots and journalists. University professors are maintaining their high status, as is the teaching profession as a whole on a more modest plane. This is in marked contrast with France, where the status of teachers has been in steady decline for several decades and that of university professors has been under heavy pressure since the events of May 1968. In Italy only university professors have escaped this trend, while other teachers have lost ground. Their colleagues in insular Britain seem to occupy a steady middling position in the ratings, except for university professors, some of whom enjoy the highest esteem.

The overall pattern of the status of professions is shifting constantly. For instance, in West Germany (where doctors have had pride of place for a long time), engineers in nuclear physics, who have lost ground after enjoying great prestige, are moving up the scale once again. Teachers at all levels, the Armed Forces, businessmen and journalists have recently made progress.

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Journalists, who enjoy great social privilege in Italy (despite the generally very traditional structures of that country's press), are respected in Britain and West Germany, whereas in France they are envied for the advantages of the job (contacts, travel and so on) rather than admired and emulated for the work they do. Nevertheless, journalism, advertising and everything connected with the mass media and communications generally are in the ascendant because these professions are playing an increasingly important role.

The same is true of trade union leadership in all four countries. This activity attracts a mixture of positive and negative reactions, but it is held in high regard by the working-class rank and file and is assuming increasing importance. Performing artists and professional sportsmen, thanks no doubt to television, have recently become established in society, while public servants seem to have taken root—except in West Germany.

Moving down the scale the clergy in France for instance have been losing prestige, presumably in line with the accelerating decline in religious commitment. Judges have also lost ground, especially in Italy and France. The once highly regarded Italian *ingegniere* have seen their status eroded as mechanical engineering has become less important in modern technology. In France, notaries have been caught up in the flak of too many scandals.

Finally, in all four countries, but Britain and France in particular, those in the middle to upper management bracket have suffered most from inflation and efforts to achieve greater equality through the reduction of the spread in incomes and increase in direct taxation. There can be no doubt that their purchasing power is falling compared with that of other categories of employees, so much so that, in Britain, some employees are refusing promotion to executive grades because they calculate that the benefits of such advancement are outweighed by the disadvantages.

A recent British survey report published by the Consumers' Association in its magazine *Which?* indicates that job satisfaction is not always closely related to income. Two other factors seem to be more important: the opportunity to make full use of ability or training acquired and the intrinsic interest of the work. For instance, British clergymen stand at the bottom of the scale of average incomes, but rank highest in terms of job satisfaction, followed by company directors, farmers and horticulturists.

However, in this ecological age, although it is known how healthy and balanced the agricultural way of life is, European parents do not seem greatly attracted by farming as a career for their children. Farmers get a low rating in the occupational league tables—apart from those in a big way of business who generally owe their positions to inherited wealth, and it is not given to everyone to follow in their footsteps. Farm labourers stand at the bottom of the social scale in all four countries and it seems that their lowly status as labourers is made all the lowlier by the fact that they work in farming.

The lowest rungs of the prestige ladder reveal our societies' prejudices. In France the lowliest status is accorded to domestic staff, farm labourers, road sweepers and dustmen, with manual workers in industry, clerical staff and porters a few rungs above. The Italian list, starting from the bottom, reads: farm labourers, road sweepers, domestic servants, unskilled building workers, unqualified clerical staff and minor public servants in general. In West Germany dustmen, farm labourers, domestic servants, porters and students are considered to have the least enviable status. In Britain: catering staff, shop assistants and cleaners.

The police seem to be escaping this category (in Italy for instance) thanks to the reversal of public opinion provoked by the wave of terrorism. Women in domestic service seem to have the lowliest status, being both women and domestics in a society which loses no opportunity to denounce the exploitation of man by man. Even Britain, the cradle of liberal and democratic society, conforms with the rule: although fairly well paid at £3,700 a year, dustmen also rank at the bottom of the job satisfaction index, although not far from economists, whose much higher incomes are undoubtedly insufficient to offset the irksome doubts about their science and their usefulness, particularly in a period of crisis.

Each country has its own peculiarities. In Britain the prestige of various jobs varies according to prevailing moods which can be influenced by current events, notably strikes. For instance, the firemen's strike has given them an opportunity to explain the risks they take and the type of work they do to the public, attracting new sympathy and admiration. Much the same happened in similar circumstances with the nurses, police and some other categories of public servants in Britain.

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In West Germany living standards have risen across the board in all occupations. However, craftsmen and skilled workers in industry have seen a below-average improvement in their conditions because, it is claimed, they are prevented under collective agreements from working longer hours than those laid down by the unions.

In Italy politicians topped the unpopularity poll, with 24 per cent of the population accusing them of openly protecting sectional interests which conflict with the general interest, (the highest percentage of such observations in relation to any occupation). Film actors and football players are highly regarded. A number of signs reflect the recentness of that country's development. For instance, the disparaging references to the ignorance of unskilled building workers are explained by the fact that many of them are poor Italians from the south in their first jobs, having left home in order to survive.

Conversely, the modest prestige enjoyed by petty public officials, particularly in small towns, reflects the time-honoured preoccupation of the disadvantaged with material security. Some categories of workers, such as butchers, have also experienced a rise in their incomes and prestige in line with the country's development. In Italy more than elsewhere, it is thought, prestige is conferred by a university education, as witness the respect for the title of doctor which, as in West Germany, is used in ordinary conversation, reflecting the hierarchical structure of society.

In all four countries it is difficult to calculate the hierarchical status of occupations according to incomes. In Italy, however, it is impossible, because of the dissimulation of salaries and moonlighting.

In France social prestige is measured less and less in terms of income and wealth, but the important competitive examinations held by the major professional schools, the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, Ecole Polytechnique, Ecole Nationale Supérieure, Ecole Central des Arts et Manufactures, Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales and so on, still have as much kudos as anywhere else in Europe. These examinations open the door to professions which generally offer a happy combination of security, influence in society and high income.

By contrast, manual jobs are so little sought after in France that many of them are regarded as the exclusive preserve of immigrant workers (who account for some two million of the French labour force, about a million of whom are unemployed). The French Government has even felt it necessary to take the step—unprecedented in Europe—of appointing a secretary of state for manual workers in an attempt to upgrade their status, but it does not seem that much has been achieved by this.

A curiosity in all four countries is the status of retailers. They enjoy independence and substantial incomes, and, although they are often envied, they seem to attract little admiration and their prestige is in decline. The population in France, for instance, holds them largely responsible for inflation, but this is not the complete explanation.

What we are witnessing in Europe is a general tendency for elites to rise up and for the emphasis to be placed on security and public service, as opposed to the protection of private interests with the high risks entailed, the objective being to protect one's own interests at the same time as the general interest. The mounting pressure of attacks on the once impregnable liberal professions, such as medicine and the law, are indicative. The ideal in the future will still be to acquire a mass of qualifications, but, if possible, to become chairman of a nationalized undertaking which enjoys a monopoly and therefore does not make losses, or a hospital doctor at the head of a department of preventive medicine.

Polish industrial giant adds quality to quantity

by Mario Fasanotti

In the Western world, with its market economy, it seemed as though the formula of the entrepreneurial state had found its best practical expression in IRI (Industrial Reconstruction Institution), which manages the Italian Government's shareholdings and revenue-earning interests. Over 1950-70, it had not only grown until it became the largest public holding company in the European Community but had also shown itself to be sufficient enough to manage, on an economic basis, several hundred firms with hundreds of thousands of employees and an annual investment capability amounting to millions of millions of Italian lire.

But the formula was unable to withstand the economic crisis which has gripped Italy for nearly 10 years, and today IRI finds itself in the thick of the storm, criticized and assailed more than it deserves to be, for all its faults, just as it was previously praised and imitated more than it deserved to be, for all its virtues.

Before restoring to the non-socialist entrepreneurial state a degree of credibility which, if only at least, and on this kind of scale, has been challenged, not temporarily withdrawn, it is worth while examining what happens in those countries where by law, as well as by virtue of its ideology and, for want of a better name, the state is an entrepreneur, because it is a socialist state.

The Polish Ministry of Engineering (MPM) is similar to IRI, in both size and structure, but there are differences, starting at the top. At the top of IRI there is Signor Giuseppe Petrilli, 66 years of age and a professor of social insurance, whose hobby is history (if you can describe an internationally famous scholar so simply) and whose militant Europism ought to get him a seat in the European Parliament. At the head of MPM is Mr Alexander Kopec, aged 44 and an electronics engineer, whose hobby is said to be basketball, at which he won an Olympic title, and an exceptional stature and physique which he still retains.

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Another difference is the way the Polish "model" is concentrated in the "machines" industry—all machines, even, from cars to cutlery (it was not long ago that Neapolitans used to call a fork "the machine") and from electronic computers to cranes capable of lifting 100 tons. IRI, on the other hand, acts as an arm of the Italian entrepreneurial state in almost all sectors of production, from banking to communications, from tourism to shipping and airlines, as well as in industry and the chemical industry exclu-

Because of shortage of space the 100-ton cranes are not on show at the offices of the Ministry of Engineering at Warsaw: the range of products that can be shown to the visitor, or which there are models or illustrated displays or large photographs, is sufficient to give some idea of what state ownership of the means of production really amounts to in a socialist state.

I was not able to check whether there actually are 800 different products manufactured every year under the MPM banner. But scores of independent manufacturers employ 800,000 people and produce a turnover of $16,000m or in domestic sales and exports to the markets of the three worlds which it is customary to divide up the planet. I thought it would be more stimulating to talk with Mr Kopec about the way his ministry is organized rather than what is in his list of products.

Mr Kopec is courteous and open, with a keen sense of humour and a sporting, fair-play approach which illustrates how—even to those responsible for running a modern economy—playing basketball can be of value in showing how to place others in a position to score, and how to score from other people's passes. He only once nearly lost his Olympic "cool", when I asked him whether the high proportion of Polish exports going to the Soviet Union was because of the difficulty of competing in the markets of the non-communist world.

"It is a biased preconception", the minister replied, "that the Soviet market is an easy one. A country that possesses gold, oil, unlimited natural resources, such as the USSR, tends to grow dynamically and can purchase what it needs anywhere in the world, selecting the best that is available. The products that my ministry supplies to the Soviet Union are therefore of high quality, technically advanced, and in no way different from what we sell to the West."

According to the minister, the reason for the big expansion in Polish exports to the Soviet Union is that it is possible to sign contracts for large quantities of a particular product for a long period and that enables production and sales to be programmed, with obvious advantages as regards both costs and capital investment.

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In all, the Ministry of Engineering's exports—or rather, those of the group of firms for which it is responsible—have now reached almost one third of those firms' production. But relations with other countries go beyond foreign trade. Mr Kopec is proud that 85 per cent of the ideas that are translated into the products manufactured by the group for which he is responsible are Polish, and only 15 per cent come from abroad. But he is also just as ready to acknowledge that in one year more than 26,000 Polish manual workers, engineers and teachers have been on courses abroad, following an established practice that has proved most valuable.

The minister does not actually say, but neither does he profess to doubt, that today Polish management and business, and his own ministry as well, can boast a level of computerization that fears no comparison with anything to be found abroad, including the United States. He gives an example to prove this: funds allocated to scientific research represent 5.5 to 6 per cent of the group's turnover, and in certain sectors, such as the electronics industry, the allocation is as much as 12 per cent.

I likened this ministry to a large corporation, but Mr Kopec replied that it was more than that, because in addition to its economic function there was also its political side. This went without saying, since it is a socialist ministry: but for Alexander Kopec, the electronics engineer, the most fascinating function was, and is, its operational role as manager on a vast scale. He is responsible—and this itself is no mean thing—not only for 800,000 workers, 100,000 of whom are technicians and engineers, but also for the industrial development of the country.

The Ministry of Engineering is an example of centralized and decentralized organization at one and the same time, after the manner of those financial and operational holding companies that have been set up in Western Europe in recent years. On paper everything is controlled by the central figure, the minister, and only in certain sectors are his powers delegated to the six under-secretaries of state, one of whom has the rank of first vice-minister.

The under-secretaries head 10 departments, responsible respectively for electronics, planning, finance and the economy, employment and wages, exports and foreign economic relations, raw materials and sales, production and cooperation, investment, research and development, and technology. In addition there are three teams under the under-secretaries responsible for safety and hygiene at work, plant modernization and the development of consumer goods (the sector which typifies the new stage in the development of the Polish economy).

But even the firms which come under these departments and teams are ultimately responsible to the minister. In addition his counsellor, the central board of directors, the department for coordination and supervision, the personnel department and the legal department are also directly responsible to him.

In effect the ministry is organized like a pyramid with four horizontal steps, with the policy-making centred at the top, management departments at the next level, executive bodies at the third level, and below them the manufacturing firms. These, grouped together under 25 heads of group, are all under the ultimate control of the ministry, which makes final decisions, decides programmes and appoints directors, obviously within the framework of the government's general policy.

The final impression that I was left with from my contact with MPM was that Poland has left behind the initial stage of its transition from an agricultural to an industrially developed country, and gone beyond the second stage—that of the development of production in quantity. Poland has now entered the third stage, which is concerned with improving quality, and has every intention of winning, if not an Olympic title, at least a good place.

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Selling whole cities against the trend

by Mario Salvatorelli

The trouble in the Italian building industry goes back to 1971 when the number of houses built started to fall. With a brief pause in 1975 the decline has continued ever since.

Italy now ranks last in European house construction, below even Greece, Portugal and Spain. Since 1971 new houses built each year in Italy have never exceeded four a thousand of the population, against the European average of 6.8 a thousand.

There are three main reasons for this. First, the lack of real political will, as a result of which any number of plans, laws and special measures have been brought in, none of which has gone to the roots of the problem. Second, rising construction costs often pay the builder to change his tracks, as many have done. And finally, the high cost of money, which is the scourge of entrepreneur and saver alike.

To overcome these difficulties, builders should cut their total costs as far as possible—but how? Certainly not by continuing on a purely artisan basis—the reverse, in fact. They have to break away from a traditional entrepreneurial concept that has kept the Italians tout court to conventional building methods.

Signor Silvio Berlusconi, a Milanese, has embarked on this industrial adventure, fortified by a wealth of experience in the building sector. He has for some months been chairman of COEDIN, a consortium of 14 of the largest building firms in Italy. It employs 40,000 people, has a turnover of about 1,500,000m lire (about £1,000m) and can operate in more than forty countries.

The aim is not to build 10 or even 100 houses at a time, but whole urban complexes, satellite cities designed for a population of about ten thousand. The new feature—for it is still new, at least in Italy—is that roads, schools, recreation and sports facilities, and centres for business and leisure are built along with the houses. In short, COEDIN wants to sell complete cities.

"Milano 2", a satellite city built on the outskirts of Milan in 1969, was the first urban unit (10,000 inhabitants) to have three separate road systems, so that pedestrians, cyclists and motorists never met. It provided an important precedent and was the launching pad for the Berlusconi consortium's large-scale projects.

If the process of urbanization continues, there are, according to Signor Berlusconi, two alternatives: either cities will spread like oil stains, which is apparently something that local authorities want to restrict, or satellite towns must be built around key cities. COEDIN's architects prefer the second solution.

All this concerns Italy and Europe. For those countries that want to be modern, industrialized, the consortium is banking on an original formula, that of the ready-made article. Countries such as those in North Africa or the Middle East which are short of housing are offered urban units complete with all necessary basic services.

In addition, COEDIN takes care of the entire management needs (industrial systems, in collaboration with individual Italian businessmen) and finds the necessary finance. A country which orders such a city has only to sign the contract. COEDIN puts forward the proposals, and in this way total construction time is cut substantially.

Advanced techniques are used, which makes prefabricated building out of date. As Signor Berlusconi explains, it is a technology based on the use of "tunnels" to create structures (originally a French technique that has been perfected) to which a range of factory-produced components is applied "dry".

The advantage is that this creates a rigid structure (not prefabricated and not assembled). They say the end result is of higher quality than that achieved with conventional building methods, while construction time is reduced, and there is a saving of about 40 per cent in space.

Works have already been carried out in many countries, including the United States, Venezuela, Canada, Malaysia, Libya, Sudan, Turkey and Zambia. In recent weeks Signor Berlusconi has been negotiating to build an inter-Arabian road network.

And what about competition? "Very severe from the Germans, French, and Spaniards", he says. COEDIN has sometimes had European partners in some of its operations, but this type of collaboration has been only on a casual basis.



Signor Silvio Berlusconi, chairman of a consortium of builders which is constructing complete satellite cities.

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New economists I: Professor Fred Hirsch

Yardstick for welfare

by David Blake

Most discussion of economic growth in recent years has concentrated on whether it is possible and what needs to be done to achieve it. The division has been, fairly simply, between the *optimists* who think that the economies of the world, and particularly the Western world, can go on growing rapidly and the pessimists who feel that we are approaching or have already reached the limits imposed by our planet's lack of resources.

Even the world recession has done little to blur this distinction. *Some people who were* once optimists have now become pessimists, *and the* idea that there are structural difficulties that make growth harder to achieve has gained popularity.

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It is because he managed to inject a new dimension into the debate on growth that Professor Fred Hirsch, who died at the age of 46 last month, was so successful in capturing the attention of academic economists and general readers alike. In a book published last year*, Professor Hirsch tried to deal with three basic questions which emerged from postwar economic experience. He did so in a way which involved few figures and no equations but none the less constrained some of the most intensely argued reasoning which has been seen in economic thought recently.

Simply put, Professor Hirsch tried to answer three questions. They are: first, why does economic advance remain such a powerful force and a target for individuals while seeming not to produce a happier society when all achieve it?

Second, why has the general increase in living standards not led to a euthanasia of economic and social conflict? The living standards of most individuals in the West have risen greatly in the postwar period because of growth, and this growth has contributed to a much greater increase in material wellbeing than could ever come about from redistribution. Yet society has become more concerned with the way that wealth is distributed, not less.

Third, although social attitudes have become more individualistic, with a greater emphasis on the freedom of individuals in such matters as sexual standards, there has been a persistent drift towards state intervention and collective action in the economy.

Professor Hirsch's argument is that the three issues are intertwined and that they stem from a single source. The problem is that economic growth as we measure it is no longer an adequate yardstick for assessing the welfare of society.

Central to this thesis is the idea of "positional goods". If welfare is just a matter of colour television sets and dishwashing machines the old standards which have been used ever since the days of Adam Smith still hold good. But increasingly the pattern of consumption, and even more important, the pattern of desired consumption, is switching away from goods of this kind. More and more individuals seek the kinds of goods which cannot be produced in limitless quantity.

Take the fairly simple example of a car, which at first sight can be produced in unlimited numbers. But it is not just cars that consumers want. It is the right to drive them wherever they like on reasonably uncongested roads, through the sorts of areas where they can look at beautiful scenery. Yet if everyone has a right to a car this becomes impossible. Either the roads are not built or they are constructed and the scenery is destroyed. Either way, there is a limit to the provision of goods.

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This example of physical congestion is similar to many of the ideas which have concerned economists in recent years seeking to apply social cost-benefit analysis. They have tried to measure the cost of such matters as congestion and to do so in money terms.

Their efforts have not been entirely satisfactory, but they do represent a step forward from the old idea that there are no costs at all in the ownership of private goods.

However, Professor Hirsch went far beyond this stage of thinking. He turned his attention to questions other than physical congestion and he focused on what can be done to relieve the costs that emerge as more and more people seek to have the same benefits.

For many goods, it is impossible for everyone to have them. There is a limited number of genuine Vermeers and nothing can be done to increase it. This might be dealt with through the price mechanism, simply by raising the price of Vermeers and forcing people to forgo other goods.

But there is a limit to this. There comes a time when such a high proportion of what people want consists of things which are in limited supply that the idea of growth becomes of limited meaning.

This is particularly true in the case of a whole range of social limits. We can all hope to be head of the government of our country, but only one person at a time can actually hold the post.

This simple example applies more importantly to education, which has widely been seen as the path to economic and social advancement. The problem is that because everyone feels that they have a right to follow this path the number of people going through the education system at the higher levels has gone up. In the process, the value of such an education has been reduced because a filter which lets everything through ceases to be a filter at all.

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It is because more and more of the goods which individuals want in society are of the kind that cannot be turned out in ever-increasing quantities that Professor Hirsch argued that economic growth is becoming increasingly difficult to achieve.

Because people want more and more of those things that only a few can possibly have also explains why concern about the distribution of wealth in society has intensified.

Also as more and more goods are of the kind that individuals cannot all hope to get on their own there has been a spread of reluctant collectivism throughout the West.

The conclusion which follows from Professor Hirsch's argument may have surprised many who knew his earlier works. He began as an economics journalist with *The Economist* in the 1960s before joining the International Monetary Fund. From studies on the international monetary system he moved on to research, first at Nuffield College, Oxford, and then at Warwick University.

When he died, he was working on the most serious criticism of his argument, that it elevates what is a problem of a few goods into a central position in economic discussions.

* *Social Limits to Growth, published by Routledge & Keegan Paul, £5.50.*

Sweden's rivers can give last drop of power

by Rainer Gatermann

It is now roughly a year and a half since a coalition of centre-right parties ousted the Social Democrats from power in Sweden after 44 years in office. The greatest problem that the new Government faces is the crisis in the economy. How does Swedish business opinion see the situation?

Mr Hans Werthen is the chairman of the supervisory board of AB Electrolux and a leading light in Swedish top management. When I asked him for his views, the subject soon arose of the new Government's controversial energy policy. Although he supports the Conservative Party, one of the parties in the triple coalition that won the election in spring, 1976, Mr Werthen can find nothing good to say for the Cabinet headed by Mr Thorbjörn Fälldin of the Centre Party, an opponent of nuclear power.

"Sweden needs 50 reactors, not 10", Mr Werthen stated, challengingly, "and we must make use of our uranium deposits and every last drop of exploitable hydroelectric power". There are still four Swedish rivers that have not been harnessed for electricity generation.

Mr Werthen is the head of a company which has successfully overcome the economic crisis, but besides criticizing the coalition's energy policy he has harsh things to say about its economic policy. He accepts that the root of the problems is the oil crisis of 1973, which faced the affected countries with a choice of policies.

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For a number of reasons, Sweden could not follow the path taken by West Germany and Switzerland, among others. An example is the policy on immigrant labour. Sweden does not recognize this category, treating all foreign entrants as genuine immigrants and integrating them accordingly into society. Despite the acute unemployment problem in West Germany, Mr Werthen feels that "it is clear in retrospect that West Germany and Switzerland had the right idea".

Speaking of the preeminence given to full employment in Swedish policy, Mr Werthen says: "Sweden deliberately accepted lower exports and rising imports in order to stimulate domestic demand, which in its turn was to preserve full employment." Among other consequences this led to Sweden pushing ahead too fast in the 1974 tariff round, leaving Swedish industry high and dry. Subsidies for stocks and wages followed, along with other government grants of various kinds.

"At this stage the policy seemed to be working: Sweden was one of the few countries besides the Opec group with a strong economy." But the second stage of this strategy never got off the ground: the expected upswing in the international economy in 1976 failed to materialize. The stocks that had been piled up were to have been run down to meet expected higher exports, and the balance-of-payments deficit was to have melted away. In anticipation of this upsurge Sweden had committed itself in 1975 to a two-year reduction of tariffs, and this was the point where Mr Werthen believes the decisive error lay.

"The runaway wage increases further hampered exports hit by declining demand. The Swedish share of foreign markets fell (from 1975 to 1977 Sweden held 21 per cent of OECD markets). It would have been better to let government spending rise, cut taxes and let the government borrow on the international market, instead of forcing companies to do so. This would have held back the wage increases, and industry could have kept its market shares, given constant competitiveness."

After the economic disaster, faced with the 45 per cent increase in unit labour costs over three years, the non-Socialist Government found itself in a cleft stick. "Devaluation of the krona was one possibility. It was right to leave the snake. It was simply not possible to follow West Germany and the Benelux countries and still carry on as we had been doing."



Hans Werthen: born June 15, 1919; chairman of the supervisory board of AB Electrolux, Stockholm; previously chairman of the board of directors, 1967 to 1974. Member of a number of other supervisory boards, including chairman of Graenges (mining and steel company), also member of the Brostraem shipping company. Before joining Electrolux was deputy chairman of the telecommunications company LM Ericsson. Graduated 1946: member of the Royal Institute of Technology, on the council of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). Hobbies: music, history and mountaineering. Married in 1950, three daughters.

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It will be some time before the Fälldin Government's restrictive economic policy starts to take effect. Much depends on the outcome of the tariff negotiations in progress. Sweden's level of costs is high. Mr Werthen, however, vigorously rejects the accusation, heard on many sides, that the major companies are prepared to shift their activities abroad in order to avoid their social responsibilities: after failing to look after their markets in better times.

"In the light of our international successes our industry can't possibly be so bad. We have also set up thriving subsidiaries abroad, and we are paradoxically being criticized for establishing ourselves in countries where, according to the same critics, we are supposed to be inferior to the national industries. Generally speaking, our foreign subsidiaries are an important export market for Swedish machinery and equipment."

Mr Werthen sees no basic difference between exporting to the EEC or to Efta: "The decisive factor is the nature of the goods concerned." The EEC is not, he points out, a simple "uniform" region: "French policy is nationalistic, aimed at developing its own industries; England is still protected by a slightly lower wage level; West Germany is a powerful industrial country, and with its central position it has a tremendous commercial tradition". Where there are barriers to trade, these are, he feels, often based on tradition rather than tariffs.

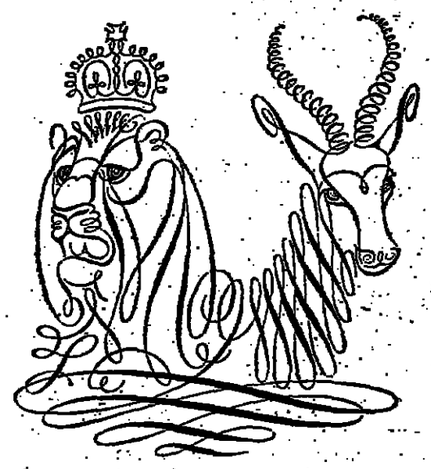
He believes that the turning point for the Swedish economy will come in the first half of this year. As part of a strategy to restore the economy, improve demand for exports and bring down production costs Mr Werthen recommends a whole-hearted policy of development of the energy sector. "We should not be building up debts abroad to encourage consumption, they should be used to finance investment." And the appropriate form of investment is nuclear power-stations, development of uranium mines (Swedish deposits are the largest in Europe) and the harnessing of the Swedish rivers.

If this were done, Mr Werthen maintains, Sweden could add to its exports, electricity and refined products, like aluminium; it could develop alternative fuels for transport systems. All these ideas have a common aim, that, of reducing Sweden's balance-of-payments deficit by raising exports and reducing imports. In 1977 this deficit was of 16,000m Swedish kronor, and this year official forecasts are 17,000m. The Swedish oil deficit is about 15,000m kronor.

Mr Werthen has, therefore, little sympathy with the Swedish anti-nuclear movement, which is now firmly established inside the Government, with the Central Party. "There is an element of risk with nuclear power. But it is not just a risk with oil, the damage is already done."

In a sharper vein: "It is simply national hypocrisy to go on about the developing nations and, at the same time, to be unwilling to reduce our own oil consumption, although we are sitting on the largest uranium deposits in Europe. Is it idealistic to use a veto to preserve a beauty spot in a country full of such natural beauties, at the expense of future generations and of the developing nations' energy requirements?". This is a reference to the declared intention of a number of Swedish local authorities to use their veto to obstruct uranium mining, should the Government decide to go ahead with it.

The present energy debate, according to Mr Werthen, presents a false picture. The supply position is already critical for Sweden, and is only tolerable because of the low level of industrial production. When this rises, energy needs can be met only from oil which will shortly be dearer. This, in Mr Werthen's eyes, is what will determine whether Sweden emerges from its present crisis with new vigour.



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IONROE DOCTRINE FOR AFRICA?

e is anxiety and resent- r over the Russian presence frica, not over the supply arms, but the supply of patants. The Cubans would be fighting in Angola and opia, or providing military and other warlike services and in other African tries, without Russian tance and planning. Nor, ur Russian approval, would European states be supply- ecurity personnel and poli- surveillance techniques to any African Governments. ver, the stage has been ed at which, emboldened ic successful establishment eir proxies, the Russians hemselves sending in per- l. The eagerness of their ic navy to obtain bases friendly port facilities on a's coastline and in its off- island states has led to a kind of penetration that nany parallels with the his- of colonialism, parallels have made thoughtful an leaders exceedingly .

is easy to rehearse the r failures of Russian inter- ce in African affairs as nce that when the Africans sick of the new strangers will throw them out. The ovment of Cuban troops sts the Russians have t from those experiences. are using military forces infiltrate the apparatus mmes weak) of African , and thereby to bring ms under Marxist colonial The analogy with the way eans manipulated tribal ies in the eighteenth and enth centuries is not Civil wars, factional gles for power, as in a and Ethiopia, have given ussians leverage; so has very complexity of the n weaponry Africans have induced to buy. Support for a Marxist or near-Marxist party soon turns into a permanent presence.

The process has been revealed more explicitly, and on a larger scale than ever, in the Horn. The Russians first penetrated Somalia and got naval base facilities in return for training an army which (in the light of the past frontier conflicts) could have only one purpose. When Ethiopia turned no less marxist, the Russians, perhaps only temporarily, cut their losses in Somalia; they went for the bigger prize—offering the new revolution aid, of the new Angola-type, to crush the Somalia nationalists in the Ogaden (and the Somali army backing them) to crush the Eritrean national struggle for freedom, and to reunify the old empire by force. The surrounding states, as well as Somalia, are alarmed and calling for help. Success in Ethiopia will be a warning to the whole of Africa that marxism is the new power.

So far the West has looked on helplessly at this late twentieth century caricature of its own past dealings with Africa. It knows it cannot stop Africans becoming marxists if they wish (there is little sign that the masses, even the intelligentsia, do wish). It has been hamstrung by its involvement with Rhodesia and South Africa, which Russia is able to exploit. Hence the realignment of American policy behind African nationalism in the South.

This may help, but it does not stop the growing invasion of outsiders into Africa, and into key roles. It is this which ought to be checked before the great powers fight proxy wars in Africa. something Africans have every reason to abhor and to combine to prevent. Historical precedents are never perfect, but it may be put to Africans that a Monroe doctrine for Africa is what is needed now. Just as the United States in 1823 forbade European outsiders to intervene with arms in the arena of the ex-Spanish colonies in the New World, it would be in Africa's interest if outsiders were forbidden to take sides directly in the African ex-colonial scene. Inter-African disputes are inevitable. Frontiers cannot be eternally sacrosanct. The fight against apartheid must go on. Africans cannot be prevented from buying arms. Expatriate experts, on tap but not on top, they will need for some time. But foreign armies, including mercenaries, they ought not to have, for these overlay African disputes with superpower manoeuvres.

There seems no reason why the European ex-colonialists and the Americans should not put forward a doctrine of non-interference in Africa, and take it to Russia as a component of détente. It is not just the Indian ocean that needs to be cleared of rival naval forces; the land terrain needs to be made taboo to the implanting of foreign forces as well. Let Africans settle African issues, by force if they must. But let non-Africans keep out, and let the Organisation of African Unity add this requirement to its rules—which would be wholly in conformity with them.

Of course there are complications. Lines have to be drawn. But calling in foreign troops is a deadly drug for Africa, as surely history shows. The right policy for Africa is the elimination of all foreign troops; that ought to be British policy; it ought to be European policy; it ought to be American policy; it is already consistent with the declarations of the OAU. If the Soviet Union and Cuba will accept this policy, so much the better. If not, they threaten the possibility of détente.

PYM'S CAUTIOUS APPROACH TO SCOTLAND

e time of the general elec- he issue of Scottish devolu- nay well be settled, in the that the Scotland Bill may the statute book and the h electorate may have ed if by whatever majority required in a referendum. an assembly had not been shed, as in all probability ld not have been, it is inconceivable that any in- government would at int deny it to Scotland. It then be the duty of the vernment, whichever party it, to operate a delicate ement as constructively as e in the interest of pre- the cohesion of the Kingdom. But it is also e that the election will ither after the referendum n held and failed to pro- e necessary majority, or een the passing of the Bill e referendum, or even the Bill has completed its through Parliament. hould the Conservatives ne of those eventualities, ring the election and if k office afterwards? would obviously depend precise stage that the on project had reached the election, and on the of forces in Scotland United Kingdom that from it. If the Bill had ssed by Parliament and had been set for the lum it would be hard for servatives then to deny tish electorate the oppor- tunity to pronounce upon it. But if the scheme had failed to win the requisite majority in the referendum, or indeed if the Bill had not completed its parliamentary course, that would be a different matter. The Conservatives would feel free to adopt a fresh approach, and the particular approach they might adopt in office would no doubt be much influenced by what had happened in the election. It would be one thing if the SNP had increased their strength considerably and even held the balance of power: quite another if it seemed that the Nationalist bubble had been pricked.

There is a limit therefore to how far the Conservatives can reasonably be expected to commit themselves in advance. But there is much to commend the general approach outlined by Mr Francis Pym in Edinburgh yesterday if it is possible for a Conservative government to deal with devolution in a mood of political calm after the election. He elaborated on his familiar theme of an all-party constitutional conference to specify the options that he would present to such a conference. There would be four: the status quo, with some improvements in parliamentary arrangements for considering Scottish affairs; an inquisitorial and scrutinizing assembly; a quasi-federal system; and independence.

The fourth of these options would be no more than a theoretical proposition for such a conference. It is inconceivable that the British political parties would consider independence for Scotland unless the SNP had at least half the Scottish seats at Westminster, and they ought not to do so then until Scottish opinion had been further tested in a referendum. The status quo would be a sensible choice only if there was evidence that the Scottish electorate had come to prefer it to any feasible alternative. But if that course was to be followed there would be much to be said for beefing up the Scottish Grand Committee in the way Mr Pym suggests and for establishing a Scottish select committee on the lines he puts forward.

His own preference would seem to be for an inquisitorial and scrutinizing assembly. That would certainly accord easily enough with the structure and operations of Parliament, but it is unlikely that an assembly without legislative or executive powers would be enough to satisfy Scottish aspirations. For all his criticisms of the Scotland Bill, Mr Pym might well be forced to look again at an assembly with such powers. But if it does fall to a Conservative government to settle the devolution question there probably would be time for the more leisurely timescale that he favours: a constitutional conference to be followed by a draft Bill if any legislative change is proposed. That is not a bad way to approach constitutional issues of this magnitude.

MOST ENGLISH OF SAINTS

nglish people were to be t to justify their history lization by the example fe of one man, then it homas More whom they rhaps choose. There are other candidates: Sir Churchill in our cen- the last, just conceiv- dstone; Dr Johnson or are among the men of Queen Elizabeth 1st Alfred among our . All of these are glish characters, and Queen Elizabeth and ed each preserved the great danger.

e case for More seems gest. The impact of the n the human mind is e powerful than that of More's character is the character, but brought of virtue which cannot be found. He is all his characteristics. and sense of humour, of conversation, the interest in wordly the shrewdness of the love for his family, animals, the pleasure use and garden, the nd generosity to his e professional concern e, the love of the nguage and the use of se are all qualities English value. It is English that he loved could not sing in tune. e these agreeable and sympathetic virtues are set in a character of humility and sanctity, and are thereby taken above their ordinary level.

Like Dr Johnson, More's life was founded on a strong realism of intellect; he was a man of ideals but not illusions. It was probably about 1525, long before the marriage crisis, that King Henry 8th was an unexpected guest to dinner at Chelsea and after dinner walked for an hour in the garden with his arm round More's neck, much to his son-in-law, Roper's delight. When Roper congratulated More, he replied: "I find his Grace my very good lord indeed, and I believe he doth as singularly favour me as any subject within this realm. Howbeit, son Roper, I may tell thee I have no cause to be proud thereof, for if my head could win him a castle in France, it should not fail to go." Unlike Wolsey, More was not at the end disillusioned by Henry VIII; he had always known him for what he was, and served him as "the King's good servant, but God's first".

It is the Roman Catholic Church which made Thomas More a Saint because he accepted martyrdom rather than swear the oath accepting King Henry VIII as Head of the Church of England. The dedication of his life to the principle of a man's duty to his own conscience makes him, however, a martyr as much valued by members of the Church of England as by Roman Catholics. His great statement in Westminster Hall during his trial asserts that duty to conscience while it distinguishes between the rights of conscience and of order in society: "Ye must understand that, in things touching conscience, every true and good subject is more bound to have respect to his said conscience and to his soul than to any other thing in all the world beside; namely when his conscience is in such sort as mine is, that is to say, where the person giveth no occasion of slander, of tumult and sedition against his prince as it is with me." It is an assertion of the primacy of conscience that is both absolute and well drafted.

Great men live in the public mind while the history of their period is still relevant to current events. A few very great men continue to hold the public mind indefinitely because their lives still bear directly on modern lives. Still today More's character is that above all others which Englishmen might seek to imitate. He is also a reassurance to us in a world almost as difficult and disordered as his. Sir Thomas More after 500 years is still most recognizably an Englishman; no other country but England could have bred him, as no country but France could have bred Voltaire. A nation that can see itself in such a character can find good hope as well as good example.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Immigrants' place in society

From Mr Guy Mayers and others

Sir, Councillor Sherman, of this Borough, takes up the argument (February 4) from Mrs Thatcher about how to win a place in British society. He suggests that a respectable attitude for immigrants would be that of the Russian Jews who came here around the turn of the century. May we point out some differences between that wave of immigration and the one of the 1950s and 60s?

(1) The Russian Jews were not black. Whatever disadvantages immigrants may suffer from, the most potent signal for fear and discrimination has tended to be colour.

(2) Immigrants are driven to this country by different things. In 1900 it was mainly persecution. In the 50s it was mainly the poor economy in parts of the Commonwealth. But in the 50s government agencies were *inviting* immigrants to take up jobs. To permit somebody to enter your home is different from asking them in. The "host community" should be hospitable.

(3) To some people foreigners begin at Calais. But it used to be a British tradition that there was a special relationship with people from British and ex-British lands, many of whom regarded themselves as British. Russian Jews were in this respect different from West Indians and Asians, who were "arranged" by the British in their colonies and Empire, whether their need was for traders in Kenya, or coolies in Guyana. Most influential of these colonial arrangements was the institution of slavery.

(4 Perhaps the most striking difference between the two periods is the change, in some 75 years, in our whole attitude to social behaviour. We believe, now, that the worst-off in our society should be helped. In a very different, less closely-knit society, with higher standards of living for the average Briton, we believe that society itself should help the unemployed, the poor, the sick, the old. If society leaves some unequally treated, we try to redress this. Such action has become a normal feature of the society which Councillor Sherman praises as fair and decent, and of the British character, which Mrs Thatcher fears may be swamped.

So what is wrong? Quietly the process of self-help, which Councillor Sherman admired in the Jewish immigrants, has been working in these last, brief, 20 years. Britons from the Caribbean and Asia are gradually finding a place in our society by their own efforts. But the evidence of discrimination in unemployment, education and housing, shows a disadvantage and inequality in action which challenges this society. When society suffers from a temporary malfunction, a doctor may temporarily be called in. Perhaps the Commission for Racial Equality may be seen in that light? In fact, Councillor Sherman will know from Notting Hill how little is being done by local, or national, authorities to alleviate this problem.

So the analogy with Russian immigrants is deceptive, but it may be useful in reminding us that expectations have changed since 1900, and that the Victorian ethic cannot be so glibly applied if we wish to be "One Nation". Least of all can we offer Black fellow citizens a foothold in this country as an "inestimable privilege", and advise them to keep a "low profile". How low?

Yours faithfully,
GUY MAYERS, Chairman,
ROBIN TUCK, Vice-Chairman,
RONALD COHEN, Prospective Parliamentary Candidate,
Kensington Liberal Association,
76 Clarendon Road, W11.
February 4.

Chiswick House

From the Editor of The Architectural Review, *and others*

Sir, We share Mr John Harris's dismay (letter, January 24) at the Department of the Environment's proposal to build a wide spreading, one storied annex alongside Chiswick House and would like to enlarge on his proposal that the money be diverted to a restoration of the garden. Let us draw a veil over the quality of the design proposed (the kindest thing to do); over the stealthiness of DOE in hiding this thing from the public until it seemed buttoned up; and over the cultural sleepiness of the Royal Fine Arts Commission in giving its blessing—and ask whether this scheme will further an understanding of Palladian design?

The real reason why Chiswick House is not much visited is the seediness of the grounds in which it stands. Yet the garden, with its various constructions, should be as much a part of "the Palladian Experience" as the House itself. Back in 1958 the DOE spent a lot of money, wisely and well, on restoring the House, but the result is only half an experience. You have only to look out of a window and the spell is rudely broken. Our ideas about the place of historical design in our national life and culture have changed greatly since the nineteen fifties, in that we have moved away from the archaeological ideal and towards the notion that as many as possible should be made to understand what our ancestors in design were trying to do.

Fortunately the Chiswick Gardens are among the best documented in the country: we know exactly what they were like and what their little buildings were like. It would not be impossible therefore to reshape the garden as it was at some point in Lord Burlington's life—at the time, say, of Roque's engraving of 1736—and reconstruct the monuments; and, having done this, to maintain both with the care accorded to a Royal Garden.

This will mean transferring maintenance of the grounds from the Hounslow ratepayers than whom, presumably, none could be more pleased.

Yours faithfully,
LANCE WRIGHT, Editor
SHEREAN CANTACUZINO, Executive Editor,
COLIN AMERY,
The Architectural Review,
9 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
February 1.

Towards Christian unity

From The Bishop of Tonbridge

Sir, If we are to reserve the sharing of Communion until the day when we achieve doctrinal agreement, it could also be argued that the word Catholic in the title of any branch of the Church should also be put on one side. For, whether we like to acknowledge it or not, millions have found and are finding salvation in other folds. Many also have taught and are reaching theology, without the full force of the imprimatur behind them. This means that unless conformity is to be imposed, any reunited Church, based though it may be on the Creeds, should have a large measure of comprehensiveness about it.

There are those who believe this would serve truth rather than hinder it. The riches of Christ are greater—have proved greater—than any one section of Christendom can grasp. Where theology is done with competence and sincerity, in an attitude of faith, new aspects of "the Truth as it is in Jesus" are reflected. Are not all needed if the light is not to be overcome by darkness? Doctrinal uniformity in which theologians may not say their say in freedom would seem to many a recipe for a diminished Christ. He would be under our control but the trouble with such a Christ is that He is always having to be propped up in His own world.

When divisions have taken place, is it not true that there is no way back? There is a way forward. There are many who still hope that, on the basis of the Creeds it could be in the fellowship of the Eucharist.

Yours, etc,
†PHILIP TONBRIDGE,
Bishop's Lodge,
48 St Botolph's Road,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.
February 2.

From Mrs J. H. Howe

Sir, If I, a Protestant, were to share in a Roman Mass, I should be sharing in a central act of worship with people who hold a belief about the Lord's Supper fundamentally different from my own. All the Acts and Prayers in the Service would express their belief. I cannot do it.

I have close friends who are Roman Catholics. We do not worship together, but this does not impair our friendship. There is no question of obstinacy, or bigotry, or closed minds. We talk freely about these things. We shall never be able to hold the same views.

This is the difficulty in the way of the visible unity of the Churches. We cannot say that we believe what we do not believe.

Could not the Churches sufficiently demonstrate their unity to the world by combining, in the utmost friendliness, in every kind of social and charitable work, and leave the intimacies of worship intact, for us all to celebrate in our chosen place, in the aura we love?

Yours faithfully,
EMILY HOWE,
22 West View Road,
Keynsham,
Bristol.
February 3.

From Mr R. N. Pepper

Sir, May a Quaker express appreciation of your leading article of February 2, and supplement your final question with two others?

If some element in doctrine or interpretation or tradition keeps apart those who, by their fruits and by their love for one another, fulfil our Lord's own standards, is it not to be considered that that element may, by that very fact, be mistaken? And do we not all need to be humble enough to realize that doctrine, interpretation and tradition are handmaidens on the threshold of infinite mystery beyond the grasp of finite minds, and that the one sure guide to what we need to know of that mystery is the light of our living Lord himself through his ever-present spirit?

Yours sincerely,
R. N. PEPPER,
Eldon Chambers,
3 College Green,
Gloucester.
February 3.

From Father Edmund Flood

Sir, The correspondence on intercommunion, and private discussion, indicate three kinds of reaction to Archbishop Coggan's appeal.

Those for whom doctrinal formulation is of little importance see no difficulty in full inter-communion without more ado. Those who give doctrine preeminent importance for achieving unity reject any inter-communion until our theologians have solved our differences. But what the Archbishop's appeal has brought out is that very many Christians in *both* churches belong to a third category: we see doctrinal discussion as an important means for achieving unity, but we see it as inadequate, and hence doomed to frustration, unless accompanied by a growing experience of one another's fellowship, which we strongly suspect *must* for a Christian involve some Eucharistic fellowship.

Let us not underestimate the importance of what has happened: that a large number of Roman Catholics see doctrinal formulation in truer perspective; the fact that there is a growing common view; and that Christians in all churches are ready to respond to the simple and sincere vision offered by a Christian leader in any church. The question now is, whether we can adequately build on that.

Yours sincerely,
EDMUND FLOOD,
Ealing Abbey, W5.
February 4.

Spina bifida children

From Dr Keith Hampson, MP for Ripon (Conservative)

Sir, In their letters, Professor Edwards (January 13) and the Bishop of Durham (January 31) raise the ethical and legal problems involved in screening for spina bifida during the 16th to 18th weeks of pregnancy. In a recent *Tonight* programme on spina bifida the Secretary of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists also alluded to the dangers of the state engaging in social engineering by requiring the abortion of abnormality.

As the main sponsor of the all party motion which calls for this screening (which is a simple blood test) to be made nationally available to all pregnant women as soon as possible—a motion signed by over 200 MPs—it is important that I dispel any doubts about the voluntary nature of the test. The facilities, and the follow-up amniocentesis for those who are identified to be at risk, would be *offered* to women, and would not be performed should the mother-to-be, on moral or any other grounds, not wish to know whether or not the foetus were normal or malformed.

I am very worried by the comments made on amniocentesis by respected men like Professor Edwards and the Secretary of the Royal College. For the last five years women between 35 and 40 have been freely offered amniocentesis. If it is as unsafe as these gentlemen imply, why before now have they not called for the slowing down of amniocentesis? The risk of a mother over 40 having a child with Down's Syndrome (mongolism) is about 1 in 30; between 35 and 40 it is about 1 in 60.

Yet there is a far greater risk of women having a foetus suffering from spina bifida or associated disorders. It is at least 1 in 10, and on the basis of the two-year pilot programmes could be 1 in 5. So why the sudden fuss when it is proposed to offer the same process to women with a much higher risk of abnormality? As in other areas of medicine errors may be made, but all the evidence to date indicates that it is a one in a thousand chance of a normal foetus being identified as malformed.

Is it merely a convenient argument to slow down government action? If the Royal College feels that there are not enough men skilled at amniocentesis, and not enough ultra-sound machines, let them argue that plainly. Not all mothers-to-be will take up the offer of a test, so it is possible that the numbers requiring amniocentesis may not be so great that many more machines will be needed.

If the testing is to be voluntary, and if the follow-up amniocentesis is performed only by specialists using the best equipment, and the incidence of error is recorded (so that the research programme's figures can be corroborated) why should the Royal College hold up the extension of the scheme from the 19 areas that have been involved in the last two years?

The Government unfortunately consulted the Royal College very late in the day but I fail to see why there need be any further misunderstanding.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH HAMPSON,
House of Commons.
January 31.

Discharging effluent

From Mr H. E. Crann

Sir, It is a pity that your correspondent, Tim Jones, did not do his homework more thoroughly before writing "Sea outfall plan leaves an offensive odour". If he had, he would know that water authorities are not "undemocratic", "unelected" bodies—a majority of each authority's membership consists of elected members of county and district councils nominated to the authority by their respective councils—and he would not have described as an omission from the 1973 Water Act an unrelated pollution control provision which is, in fact, included in the Control of Pollution Act 1974.

The facts of the matter are that the Authority's long outfall will produce at the surface of the sea above the end of the outfall, a mile offshore, of the bathing beaches, an effluent of the same standard as would be discharged from the opponents' proposed treatment plant adjacent to the beach. Not surprisingly, the latter would create bacterial contamination of the beaches and bathing areas that the former would avoid.

If rational grounds for thinking that the Authority's conclusions are wrong were advanced they would of course be examined; so far there have been none.

Mr Jones concludes by suggesting that adoption of the Authority's outfall scheme might shake belief in democracy. If he thinks a little more deeply about it, he will realize that for the Authority, democratically constituted and charged by a democratic Parliament with controlling pollution on the community's behalf, to abandon its outfall scheme (which has the support of the democratically elected District Council) in favour of an alternative that would create more bacterial contamination—and to do so for no better reason than a demand by an unrepresentative minority who carry no responsibility—would be a negation not only of democracy but of responsibility and commonsense as well.

Yours faithfully,
H. H. CRANN, Chief Executive,
Welsh National Water Development Authority,
Cambrian Way,
Brecon,
Powys.
February 1.

Swineflesh

From Mr H. Koning

Sir, Listeners to last night's news broadcasts were treated to an EEC communiqué on the "green pound and "pig meat". Presumably the continentalization of England is now progressing from kilometres and centrigrade to the language and English is to become translated German. Let's go the whole hog, then, and label the stuff swineflesh.

Sincerely,
H. KONING,
9 Norfolk Road, NW8.
February 1.

Fighting in the Ogaden

From Dr David Hamilton

Sir, Unfortunately, what your correspondent Basil Davidson (January 24 and 28) describes so reassuringly as Somalia's reluctant "armed support for the decolonization of the Ogaden" many of your readers will see as the premeditated invasion of a quarter of Ethiopia, undertaken as part of a plan involving the similar occupation of a large part of Kenya and the Republic of Jibouti. Furthermore they will see this policy of territorial aggrandisement as having only been made possible through an appalling Somalian deal with the Soviet Union, made in defiance of OAU guidelines and to the clear detriment of many nearby countries.

The fact is that Africa—like Europe—long ago decided that, whether good or bad, each state should accept the boundaries existing at its independence or inauguration. I remember the debate on this issue at the first meeting of the OAU in 1963, when the Nigerian Prime Minister, Abubakar Balewa, pointed out that if African states see their boundaries as adjustable, those who wish to expand will be encouraged to solicit outsiders to assist them in their "struggle", while those who find their boundaries threatened will inevitably have to divert their resources from constructively promoting their country's health and wealth to non-productively defending its territory and existence. His brother heads of state took the point: the policy of honouring existing boundaries was quickly adopted and has been adhered to by the OAU ever since.

Balewa's warning was justified. Somalia's refusal to accept her 1960 boundaries has led directly to Russia's devastating presence in the Horn. The peace of the area is shattered, that of all Africa threatened.

Internationally Britain should, with our Western allies, exert all possible pressure upon the Soviet Union to reduce the scale and aims of her involvement in the area. More locally we should recognize that long term solutions will, almost certainly, have to wait until sufficient transfrontier confidence makes it possible to reintroduce and develop some form of open frontier whereby the administrations cooperate to minimize the effects of the boundary on the local inhabitants or, ideally, offer them dual citizenship. Such an approach seems to have been envisaged in the 1897 delimitation of the British Somaliland boundary and has led to extensive cooperation in the area at times since then.

In the meantime, and despite the appealing social and ethnic arguments for redrawing boundaries in the Horn so as to form a new United or Greater Somalia, let us not forget that the sovereignty of the territory in question lies with other independent countries. However reprehensible her present government, Ethiopia has very clear legal rights. Neither the UN, the OAU, or even the Arab League, have given Somalia comfort or support to her unilateral expansionist claims. Neither should we in Britain.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID HAMILTON,
164 Brixton Road, SW9.

Teaching politics

From Miss Kathleen Gibberd

Sir, What a pity Mr Rhodes Boyson (Social Focus article, January 31) was not one of my pupils between the wars; he must be about the right age. Had he been, I cannot think he would have been so bored with Civics as he seems to think inevitable, or have suffered from biased teaching.

I am not aware that I changed the political convictions of any pupil. I myself voted Labour, but they were mostly Conservative and continued that way. Indeed, one of my first pupils became a Conservative agent. On one occasion when I was asked to address some young women new voters and explain to them the issues of the coming election I allowed them to guess my politics when I had finished. With one accord they shouted "Conservative". I am sure the Labour Party leaders would have been shocked, but a teacher has to put education before politics. Any teacher of history knows this, although Mr Boyson writes as if history is plain sailing compared with teaching politics.

I have to say here that I think women are better at this elevation of fair mindedness in the classroom than men. There were plenty of them at the time of which I write and it was a woman, Eva Hubback, who founded the Association for Education in Citizenship in the 1930s. I find its successor, the Political Association, less seminal. Its foundation meeting, preoccupied with academic respectability, was perhaps a bad start. But Mr Boyson's thunderbolts out of his own blue sky get us nowhere. I regret that they have stirred me to write so immodestly.

Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN GIBBERD,
Kent's Field,
Southease,
Near Lewes,
Sussex.

Sugar and spice

From Mrs Nieves Mathews

Sir, Your Agriculture Correspondent concludes his article "Sugar and spice" on January 26 quoting a question few shoppers "could answer with authority". The question is: would you prefer a biscuit containing chemicals to a rancid biscuit? This is rather like asking Solomon's contending mothers "which half of the baby will you have?"

I find it perfectly easy to answer: "if that is the best you can offer me, I will do without biscuits". The trouble is, with present trends in food production, anyone answering *neither* to your correspondent's question will soon be left with nothing to eat.

Yours sincerely,
N. MATHEWS,
Via del Mattonato 6 Rome.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 6: The Queen arrived at Buckingham Palace this afternoon.

The Prince of Wales, as Colonel-in-Chief, will pay an informal visit to the 1st Battalion, the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment in Minden on *February 10.*
The Duke of Edinburgh will open the Jubilee Hall Recreation Centre, Covent Garden, on February 14.

The Earl of Harewood is 55 today.

A memorial service for Air Chief Marshal the Hon Sir Ralph Cochrane will be held at the Church of St Clement Danes, Strand, London, WC2, at noon on Tuesday, February 28, 1978. Dress for the occasion *will be: morning dress* or lounge suit, mourning bands should *not* be worn. Tickets for the service will *not* be required. No special car parking facilities will be available.

A memorial service for Captain John Ridgway Berridge Longden will be held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, Royal Hospital Road, London, SW3, at 11.15 am, on Tuesday, March 21, 1978.

The Hon Mrs Clive Gibson gave birth to a daughter in Chichester on Saturday, February 4.

Birthdays today

Mr Arthur Bottomley, MP, 71; Miss Dora Bryan, 54; Professor H. C. Darby, 69; Mr Peter Jay, 41; Lord Rea, 78; Sir Raymond Streat, 81; *Sir Brian* Windeyer, 74.

Royal Caledonian Ball

The Royal Caledonian Ball will be held at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London W1, on Monday, May 15.

Tickets, priced £8.00 each (including light refreshments served at midnight), will be on sale from the ball office, Grosvenor House, *from April 15. Earlier inquiries* can be made to the secretary by writing c/o Grosvenor House, or by telephoning Dummer (025-675) 543.

Gold medal award

The honorary gold medal of the Royal College of Surgeons has been awarded to Professor T. Cecil Gray, former dean of the facility of *anaesthetists of the Royal College* of Surgeons and of the faculty of medicine, Liverpool University, in recognition of his contributions to the science of anaesthesia and to medicine and surgery.

Gift to theatre museum

Theatre designs, models, sketchbooks and photographs from the 1930s to the present have been given *by the* Arts Council to the Theatre Museum, which opens in the Flower Market, Covent Garden, in 1980 (our Arts Reporter writes). Part of the collection of 150 items will go on show this summer at the Victoria and Albert Museum's exhibition "Objects".

Lancing College

The dedication ceremony is to take *place on May 13 of the recently* completed rose window at Lancing College Chapel. The Prince of Wales and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, will attend.

Inner Temple

Duke of Edinburgh entrance scholarships, which cover the cost of admission to the Inn and call to the Bar, have been awarded to the following:

D. Abrams, BA (Cantab): M. I. Ali, BA (Trent Poly): J. G. Allen, Hull Univ: G. R. Ayres, Southampton Univ: Miss S. Bedell-Pearce, BA (Bristol): T. S. Bishop, Oxford Univ: Miss H. J. E. U. Boland, Southampton Univ: B. L. Cohen, Central London Poly: Miss F. A. Cole, *London Univ*: C. R. R. Conay, Southampton Univ: M. A. Copping, Oxford Univ: T. J. Davey, BA (Central London Poly): N. A. Dowding, Cath. Cambridge Univ: W. Downer, Nottingham Univ: S. J. Evans, Cardiff UC: Miss D. Gentry, Southampton Univ: Miss S. Glacken, Southampton Univ: R. P. Govindia, LLB (Lond): J. A. Hames, BA (Cantab): M. L. Harrison, Sheffield Univ: M. S. W. Hoyle, BA (City of London Poly): P. P. Lohain, BA (Lond): J. Loughrey, Hull Univ: A. J. Lydiard, Oxford Univ: Miss H. M. McGregor, London Univ: C. A. McNeill, Oxford Univ: Miss J. E. M. Miller, Bristol Univ: Miss S. A. Morrell, Hull Univ: C. J. Naish, Exeter Univ: D. A. Owen, Nottingham Univ: *I. S. Partridge, Oxford Univ*: J. L. Rowsell, Hull Univ: S. Shapiro, London Univ: Miss J. Spencer, BA (Cantab): P. L. Taylor, Cambridge Univ: Miss J. H. Tennant, Bristol Univ: R. I. S. Tunbridge, BA (Dorset Inst of H Educ): R. M. Webster, BA (Sholms and Sussex): Miss J. M. Williams, Cambridge Univ: R. N. Wrack, Cambridge Univ.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N. J. Bevan and Miss S. J. Mappin
The engagement is announced between Nigel, youngest son of Mr and Mrs J. Bevan, of Perth, Australia, and Sarah, eldest daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel D. H. Mappin, and of Mrs D. H. Mappin, of Lewes, Sussex. The marriage will take place in Perth on March 2.

Mr N. A. Foster and Miss S. A. Ledger
The engagement is announced between Nigel, youngest son of Mr and Mrs P. W. Foster, of Belmont, Mill Hill, and Susan, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs I. R. Ledger, of Carshalton.

Captain G. S. Gammond and Miss P. M. Hargroves
The engagement is announced between Spencer Gammond, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, only son of Mr and Mrs F. J. T. Gammond, of Norwood Green, Middlesex, and Philippa, youngest daughter of Brigadier and Mrs R. L. Hargroves, of Naunton, Gloucestershire.

Mr J. Leslie and Miss J. A. Lalor
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Dr and Mrs Ian Leslie, of Barnet, Hertfordshire, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Lalor, of Hampstead, London.

Mr A. B. Petrides and Mrs C. J. Douglas
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place in London in June, between Alan, son of the late Flight Lieutenant Basil Petrides and Mrs Anne Richards, of Florida, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. B. Wood, of Little Gollanfield, Ardesier, Inverness.

Mr D. G. Reeves and Miss J. M. Newton
The engagement is announced between Desmond Reeves and Jane, daughter of Dr and Mrs J. L. Newton, of Syderstone, Norfolk, and late of Islington, London.

Mr J. R. G. Smithson and Miss F. Bruce
The engagement is announced between James, only son of Mr and Mrs R. A. *Smithson, of* Clayton, Sussex, and Fiona, daughter of Mr A. N. C. Bruce, of Great Durnford, *Salisbury, and* Mrs Anne Bruce, of Dragons Green, Coolham.

Mr M. Sword-Daniels and Miss R. Akester
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Mr A. T. Sword-Daniels and of Mrs Sword-Daniels, of Brighton, and Rachael, daughter of Mr and *Mrs John Akester, of Chiswick.*

Christening

The infant daughter of Captain *and Mrs David Bowes-Lyon was* christened Georgina Alice on Monday, February 6, at St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street, by Canon J. Longstaff. The godparents are Lord Buckhurst, the Hon John Astor, Mrs Joe Goodhart, the Hon Mrs George Lopes, Miss Juliet Baring and Miss Susan Crawley-Boevey.

Decision on women

Gonville and Caius College, founded in 1348, will admit women as students and into fellowships from October, 1979. The college said applicants would be selected on merit and there would be no *prearrangement of numbers.*

Latest wills

Latest wills include (net, before tax; tax not disclosed):
Barritt, Mr William Vernon, of Morecambe, headmaster .. £113,598
Brown, Mr William John, of Northwood, vice-president of the Law Society £101,248
Collins, Henrietta May, of Woodford £714,606
Smeeton, Mrs Dorothea Susan, of Newbury £107,578
Shaw, Miss Barbara Foster, of Puddletown £106,210
Walker, Mrs Marjorie, of Rotherby £122,841

Record price for porcelain figure

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

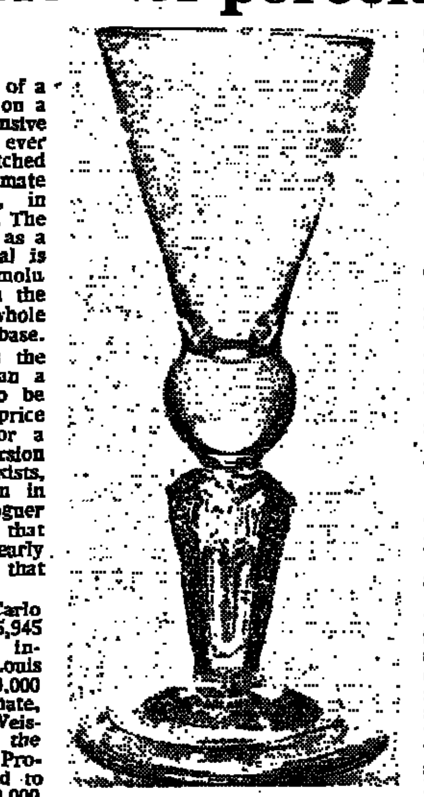
A Vincennes porcelain figure of a naiad in a pink robe sitting on a rock became the most expensive piece of European porcelain ever sold at auction when it fetched 750,000 francs or £78,782 (estimate 600,000 to 800,000 francs), in Monte Carlo on Sunday night. The group is mounted in ormolu as a clock; *the circular clock dial is* supported by a stunted ormolu tree. The mounts date from the Louis XV period and the whole rests on a simulated marble base.

If the clock mount makes the *figure just* a little more than a porcelain group, it may also be noted that that is the highest price ever achieved at auction for a clock. One other coloured version of this Vincennes group exists, now in the Thiers collection in the Louvre. Sotheby's cataloguer has gone so far as to affirm that it is the finest Vincennes or early Sèvres polychrome group that remains in private hands.

Sotheby's sale in Monte Carlo on Sunday night totalled £565,945 with 15 per cent unsold. It included a very fine pair of Louis XIV boulle armoires at 360,000 francs or £37,815 (estimate, 300,000 to 400,000 francs). A Weis*weiler commode, once in the* collection of the Comte de Provence at Fontainebleau, failed to sell and was bought in at 300,000 francs or £31,200 (estimate, 300,000 to 400,000 francs).

The sale continued yesterday morning with a total of £476,770 and 11 per cent unsold. The curiosity was the silk nightcap worn by Napoleon on board HMS Northumberland on his way to Elba; it was sold for 1,800 francs, *or £189, to an English collector* of Napoleonic relics. The top price in the sale was 750,000 francs, or £78,782, estimate, (500,000 to 600,000 francs) for a Louis XV black and gold lacquer bureau-plat, formerly in the collection of Nathaniel de Rothschild in Vienna.

In London yesterday Sotheby's



A George I commemorative goblet, sold at Sotheby's *yesterday for £2,200.*

sale of English and Continental glass made a total of £31,684, with 4 per cent unsold. The rarity of the sale was a George I commemorative goblet, which fetched *£2,200* (estimate, £2,000 to £2,500). While loyalty to the Stuart cause was constantly recorded in glass, pro-Hanoverian glass is a rarity; this goblet has a thistle bowl set on a moulded tiered pedestal stem inscribed in relief under the four shoulders "God Save GR"; between the G and R is inserted a bust of George I. The piece had been bought for a song in a West Country antique fair by its previous owner.

The German glass sold comfortably on this occasion, with a Potsdam gilt armorial goblet and cover of about 1740 going at £1,250 (estimate, £600 to £800) to E. Beckman.

At Christie's a sale of Continental porcelain saw very strong competition for relatively standard pieces. Meissen *Cris de Paris* groups more than doubled expectations: a radish seller went for £1,200 (estimate £300 to £400), an oyster-seller for £1,200 (estimate £400 to £600).

The top prices in the sale were £7,000 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000) for a pair of Meissen figures of parrots and £7,000 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000) for a Meissen *Marcolini* dinner and desert service. A Meissen Augustus Rex yellow ground vase with panels of chinoiserie figures was unsold at £5,800 (estimate £3,500 to £5,000). The sale totalled £109,736, *with 10 per cent unsold.*

Slave market scene: The top price at Phillips's Bristol branch yesterday was £3,100 paid by an anonymous dealer for an oil painting of an Arab slave market. It was entitled "A new purchase" and was attributed to Gimenez Martin, an unrecorded artist, inscribed Rome, 1886. It depicted three Arab merchants viewing two seductively attired maidens in an Islamic interior.

The picture, estimated at about £1,000 because of its quality and Arab interest, is probably destined for the Middle Eastern market. The sale of oils and watercolours totalled £10,175, with 2 per cent unsold.

A Phillips's sale of furniture in London totalled £26,123 (4 per cent unsold) and Lockhart paid £640 for an antique oak dining table (estimate £500). A sale of prints totalled £12,410, with 6 per cent unsold, and a sale of watercolours totalled £7,150, with 8 per cent unsold.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Evan Luard, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of the High Commissioner for Sri Lanka and Mrs Wimalasena. Among those present were:
The High Commissioner for India, Sir Dingle Foot, QC, and Lady Foot, Sir Stanley and Lady Tomlinson, Sir David and Lady Lidderdale, Mr Richard Luce, MP, Mr Marcus Lipton, MP, Mr and Mrs Dennis Neale, Mr and Mrs J. F. Lyons, Mr L. R. H. Smith, Mr and Mrs Malcolm Rutherford, Mr John White, Mr and Mrs W. K. K. White and Miss M. G. D. Evans.

GLC
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Mr *Alderman and Sheriff Michael* Hinton and Mrs Hinton, were the guests of honour at a luncheon given by the Chairman of the GLC at County Hall yesterday.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
Sir Harold Wilson, MP, attended a luncheon given by Mr Frank Knowles, President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, at 12 Great George Street yesterday, in connexion with the institution's evidence to the Committee to Review the Functioning of Financial Institutions. Others present were:
Mr Brian Hudson (secretary to the committee), Mr J. R. Cricmay, Mr C. T. Dann, Mr J. N. C. James, Mr H. R. Jenkins, Mr W. G. Nutley, Mr Robert Steel (secretary-general of the institution) and Mr R. W. Baker.

Coal Industry Society
The Coal Industry Society held a luncheon at the Hyde Park Hotel yesterday. Mr W. M. Pybus, president, introduced the principal guest and speaker, Mr Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail. Mr J. P. G. Weston was in the chair.

Reception

Anglo-Indonesian Society
The Anglo-Indonesian Society gave a reception at 10 St James's Square yesterday evening to bid farewell to the Indonesian Ambassador and Mme Subono.

Dinners

HM Government
Mr Frederick Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, and Mrs Mulley were hosts at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House yesterday evening in honour of Mr Rolf Hansen, Norwegian Minister of Defence. Among those present were:
Mr and Mrs J. J. Holst, Mr and Mrs F. Molvig, Major-General and Mrs B. *Hauge, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs T.* Naess, the Norwegian Ambassador and Mrs Jacobsen, Mr and Mrs O. Sole, Commodore and Mrs B. Ela, Mr John Gilbert, MP, and Mrs Gilbert, Sir Ian Gilmour, MP, and Lady Caroline Gilmour, Sir Frank and Lady Cooper, Marshal of the RAF Sir Neil and Lady Cameron, General Sir Roland and Lady Gibbs, Vice-Admiral Sir Gordon and Lady Tait, Mr D. Young, MP, and Mrs Young, Mr H. N. Marten, MP, and Mrs Marten, Mr A. Woodall, MP, and Mrs Woodall, Lieutenant-General and Mrs J. C. C. Richards, Mr and Mrs R. L. L. Facer, Air Commodore J. W. Frost, Mr G. R. Jefferson, Mr and Mrs B. D. Blackwell, Mr C. F. R. Barclay, Group Captain D. J. Devitt *and Wing Commander and Mrs J. D.* Harvey.

Admiralty Board
The Admiralty Board entertained Vice-Admiral S. Konofaos, Chief of Hellenic Naval General Staff, and Mrs Konofaos at dinner at Admiralty House, Whitehall, last night. Admiral Sir Terence Lewin, First Sea Lord, presided. Those present included:
The Greek Ambassador, the Earl and Countess of Lytton, Lady Lewin, Vice-Admiral Sir Anthony Morton, Mr L. Salthouse, Vice-Admiral J. H. F. Eberle, Mr and Mrs B. W. Lythall, Mr R. A. Hibbert, Rear-Admiral and Mrs J. S. C. Lea, Commandant S. V. A. McBride, WRNS, Captain and Mrs H. Pappas, Captain and Mrs P. J. Williams, Lieutenant-Commander E. Tsalalos and the Flag Lieutenant to the Admiralty Board.

Overseas Bankers Club
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs attended the annual dinner of the Overseas Bankers Club held yesterday evening at Guildhall. Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the *Commission of the European Communities*, and Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, were the principal guests. The Hon John Baring, president of the club, presided, and bankers from overseas attended.

Dog-lovers of the world get together

By Philip Howard

All dogs lead to London this week, for Crufts Show and for the first international conference of kennel clubs ever held.

About a hundred two-legged delegates from 32 countries have arrived for this supreme pow-wow and bow-wow of the canine world. There is a strong delegation from Japan. The Indians include two nawabs and a maharajah. Princess Antoinette, that learned breeder of Faroe hounds, is representing Monaco.

It is the greatest gathering of *the doggy ever held. Their pur*pose is not to come to dogmatic decisions but to discuss such matters of common interest as the standardization of breeds and judges.

Welcoming the delegates, Mr Leonard Pagliero, chairman of the English Kennel Club and an authority on beagles and Alsatians, said: "The interest *in dogs we share transcends* all barriers of class, religion, and politics. I am confident that this bringing together of people from all parts of the world will have far-reaching benefits not *only from the canine point of* view but in human terms as well."

Yesterday they got straight down to business with an animated discussion of breed standards, from muzzle to the requirement of two testicles fully descended into the scrotum for male dogs. Some countries, notably the United States, have different standards from the rest of the world. For example, the minimum heights for collies and Shetland sheep dogs in America are the maximum allowed in the United Kingdom.

An English delegate asked indignantly whether a country that adopts an immigrant breed had any right to alter the breed standards of the originating country. An American delegate explained that American dogs are isolated from their canine cousins in the rest of the world, and American breeders are autonomous and independent.

Today they move on to new topics such as canine abnormality and the computerization of records. Rare breeds such as the French Porcelaine and the Spinone Italiano will be discussed. A dog's best friend is his illiteracy, and the fact that he does not talk too much.

£67,000 for cataloguing cathedral books

By Our Arts Reporter

Grants totalling £67,000 have been announced by the British Library to help in cataloguing older books in cathedral libraries.

Durham Cathedral library will receive £10,500 annually for three years and Canterbury Cathedral library a grant of £16,500. The Bibliographical Society will receive £19,000 to complete compilation of a union catalogue of pre-1701 books in the cathedral libraries of England and Wales.

The Canterbury library enjoyed its greatest expansion between 1660 and 1869; of its collection of 40,000 printed volumes, about 11,000 were published before 1801. An author catalogue of the main Chapter Library was compiled in 1889 and kept up to date until 1942. Its accuracy was marred by the bombing of the library and later reshelving, renumbering and additions.

At Durham, the library holds *one of the more important collec*tions in the United Kingdom, containing printed volumes as well as manuscripts, monastic and capitular archives. A high proportion are foreign titles, many of which are not held in the British Library.

Memorial meeting

Professor F. Hirsch
A memorial gathering for Professor Fred Hirsch was held at the University of Warwick on Saturday. The Vice-Chancellor, Mr John Butterworth, gave an address and the programme of music and readings was given by Mr Philip Hirsch, Mr Donald Hirsch and Mr Tim Hirsch (sons), Mr David Gordon, Mr Peter Oppenheimer, Professor A. H. Halsey, Dr John Goldthorpe, Professor Malcolm Anderson and the Coull String Quartet.

Ash Wednesday services

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC, 8; M, 9.30; HC, 10, Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus Dei (Rubbra), Litany (Tallis); 2.15, Service for the Stationers and Newspaper Makers' *Company, Canon* J. S. Kingsnorth; Evensong, 4, Ven John Perry, Mag and N.D. (Causton, short). A. Salvator mundi (Tallis).
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: HC, 8; M (said), 9.20; Grey Coat Hospital Holy Communion 10, Rev W. J. Booth; Sung Eucharist, 12.30 (Jallis, short); Evensong, 5 (Tomkins), O bone Jesu *(Child), Right Rev E. G. Knapp-*Fisher.
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street (public welcomed): HC, 8; E, 5.30, Mag and ND (Wilson in C). A. Subdue us by thy goodness (Bach).
ST ALBAN'S, Holborn: LM 7.45 and 12.30 pm; HM, 7 pm (Byrd, 4-part Mass), Ave verum (Josquin des Prés).
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 1.15, Lent Lunch-hour Service, Cardinal Hume: "Christian values today".
UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Gordon Square: 6 pm, Ceremonies and University Eucharist, Bishop of Oxford. Bell' amfitrit' altera (Lassus).

OBITUARY

MR JOHN WATSON

Authority on treatment of juvenile offenders

Mr John Watson, CBE, who was a chairman of the Inner London Juvenile Courts from 1936 to 1968, died on February 5 at the age of 74. He will be remembered not only for the quality of his handling of cases in which juveniles were involved but also for his concern over the whole range of the question of the *juvenile* offender. In this sphere he became a widely-known authority both from his personal exertions in a number of cases which were in their time minor *causes celebres*, and from his writings on the subject. Of wide and humane sympathies he was a tireless champion of the juvenile underdog at a time when sympathies in that direction were not perhaps to be so taken for granted as they are today.

Educated at Uppingham, John Arthur Fergus Watson passed into the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, but declined a cadetship and qualified as a surveyor in 1926. He became a Fellow of the Royal *Institution of* Chartered Surveyors in 1934, and in 1949, at the early age of 45, he became the youngest president in the history of the institution. Among the many public com*mittees on* which he served, were the Central Housing Advisory Committee (1936-1947), the Prime Minister's Committee on Regent's Park Terraces (1945), and the New Towns *Committee (1945-46)*. He played an active part during the war in the inauguration of Poor Man's Valuer Association for London, and was its honorary secretary from 1941 until *1946. He also served on the* National Council of Housing Research, and from 1953 till 1956 on the Stevenage Development Corporation. At the same time he served on the Consumers Committee for England and Wales under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1931, and he gave evidence on behalf of the RICS before many other committees concerned with land.

His professional career included a partnership in Ferris and Puckridge, the agency of the Northampton Estate in Canonbury, and a period as a partner in Savill's. In 1957 he was appointed a member of the Lands Tribunal, on which he served with distinction until 1969, when ill health forced him to retire.

As long ago as 1928 he had become honorary secretary at the National Association of Prison Visitors. His service as a juvenile magistrate began in *1935 when he became a JP for* the County of London (later Inner London Area). His book *Meet the Prisoner* (1939) was a revelation to many and showed the direction of his interests, and he served as a Member of the Council for the Royal Society for Assistance of Discharged Prisoners. From 1941 to 1944 he was chairman of the National Association of Prison Visitors. He also served on the Youth Advisory Council to the Minister of Education from 1942 to 1945, and from 1946 to 1948 on the Royal Commission for Justices of the Peace. As a recognized authority on juvenile delinquency, he was sent by the government on a number of missions abroad to *lecture and advise.*

His concern for young people also found expression in his governorship of Christ's Hospital; in his work for and lifelong interest in the junior organization of the RICS, and in his many other books such as *The Child and the Magistrate* (1942); *British Juvenile Courts* (1948); and *The Juvenile Court—1970 Onward* (1970). During his retirement he produced no less than five books all characterized by his felicitous language, his sense of humour, his understanding of people and his desire to point the young in the direction of service to the community. It was typical of the man that all royalties from his books were donated to the *Royal Institution of Chartered* Surveyors Benevolent Fund.

Watson suffered for many years from muscular distrophy but such was his character and eagerness to pursue his many interests to the full that he was able to overcome to a large extent his severe disability. He was appointed CBE in 1965.

He married in 1948 Joan, daughter of Claude Leigh. They had one son and one daughter.

SIR GORDON LARKING

Mr Charles Busby, national chairman of the Royal British Legion, writes:

In the 60 years since the ending of World War One, there can have been few greater *champions of the war disabled* than Sir Gordon Larking, whose death at the age of 84, has removed yet another of those great hearted men who made the Royal British Legion a power in the land.

He had a long and active career in public life. He was a partner in the family firm of accountants at Maidstone, *where he was three times Mayor* and had been rewarded with the honorary freedom of the borough.

The British Legion claimed his interest right from the days of its formation in 1921. He became Maidstone branch chairman, county chairman and a member of the Southern Area Council. As one of the youngest delegates to national conference he was never less than forthright in championing the cause of those with whom he had served in the First World War.

He became national chairman of the legion in the immediate post-war years (1947-50). He made himself the legion's ambassador, undertaking missions to North America, to Europe, Africa, the Far East and Australasia. Thanks to his visits, taken at no little sacrifice of his time and some cost to his personal interests, Colonel Larking, as he then was, made a great contribution towards bringing the Legion and overseas comrades closer together in both understanding and outlook.

It was in the field of war pensions and the welfare of the disabled that Sir Gordon made his greatest contribution. In his legion work, his experience on local war pensions and disablement advisory committees and his 24 years as a member of the Ministry of Pensions Central Advisory Committee, he was fearless in his advocacy of better conditions and improved *pensions for the war disabled.* He was instrumental in launching the legion's campaign to raise the basic war disability pension from 45s to 90s a week and to preserve the preference in the matter of pensions which the war disabled still enjoy.

His name will always be associated with the Royal British Legion Village, a mile or so outside Maidstone, which was taken over by the Legion in 1925, and developed as a centre for the treatment of tuberculosis and the rehabilitation and resettlement of ex-*servicemen who were suffering* from that disease. He became a member of the council of management in 1928, its chairman in 1935 and its president in 1965. Over the years it gave a new lease of life to many thousands of men and became an example to the world of the efficacy of village settlements for the disabled.

In 1960, after the late Lord Cromwell had retired as general treasurer, Sir Gordon was once again prevailed upon to accept a responsible office, taking over the finances of the Legion until 1970, at a time and age when others would have thought of enjoying a comfortable retirement.

MR L. M. PUGH

Mr Leslie Mervyn Pugh, who died on February 4 at the age of 72, was the first magistrates' clerk to become a stipendiary magistrate and also the first solicitor to attain that position. He was stipendiary magistrate for Liverpool from 1965 to 1976 and for Merseyside from 1974 to 1976. He had previously been stipendiary magistrate for Huddersfield since 1957. He collapsed at his home in Formby while watching the England v Wales rugby match on television and died shortly afterwards.

The son of Joseph Pugh he was born in the south Wales village of Norbeth on November 19, 1905, and was educated at Wellington School, Somerset.

He was admitted solicitor in 1928. He was appointed clerk to Swansea justices in 1940 after having been in private practice in London and Swansea. He subsequently became clerk to the Sheffield City justices in 1946 and clerk to Hallamshire (West Riding) justices in 1947.

In 1955-56 he was president of the Justices Clerks' Society and has also been a member of the Home Office Probationary Advisory Training Board.

He married in 1931 Elizabeth Gwladys Newcombe. They had two daughters.

SIR CHARLES CLAY

C.D. writes:

By the death of Sir Charles Clay, the country has lost an historian of great distinction who was unquestionably the authority on Anglo-Norman families, particularly in Yorkshire.

The obituary notice published in your issue of February 2 *included an adequate sum*mary of his life and career; but in citing only two of his published works, without indicating that they were among many, it hardly did justice to his achievement as an editor. The two volumes of *Early Yorkshire Charters* covering the Honour of Richmond described in the obituary were in *fact followed by seven further* volumes in the series, published between 1939 and 1965.

Fifteen other volumes edited by Clay, mainly for the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, appeared between 1911 and 1973. His last work, *Notes on the Family of Clere*, which was privately printed in 1975 and presented to the author on his ninetieth birthday, was prefaced by a delightful tribute by Professor Christopher Brooke and accompanied by a complete bibliography of his writings.

Sir Charles Clay was for many years a trustee of *The Complete Peerage* for which he *compiled* five articles in volumes eight and 10. He was a recognized authority on peerage history and peerage law and was frequently consulted in connexion with peerage cases considered by the House of Lords.

As Librarian to the House he did more for the library than any of the other six librarians between 1826 and 1976.

Sir Charles Clay was the most modest and unassuming of men. He would probably not have approved of this short note being written by a much younger friend who owes so much to an exceptionally kind and distinguished man.

Mr Harold Major Allen, QC, died on December 24 at the age of 66. He served in the Inland Revenue from 1935 to 1950, called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1949 and practised from 1950 to 1972.

Mr William Henry Gardner, CMG, who died on Christmas Eve at the age of 82, entered the Civil Service as a boy clerk in 1910 and rose to become Assistant Under-Secretary of State War Office.

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, February 5, 1953

The *Minister of Food* informed the House of Commons yesterday that the rationing and price control of chocolate and sugar confectionery had ended. In reply to a question he said he had no doubt that stocks were sufficient to meet all demands. Our Parliamentary Correspondent writes: when sweets were derationed in April, 1949, the demand was so heavy that the government were obliged to reimpose rationing after *about four months. The Ministry* of Food are confident, however, that on this occasion derationing will be permanent. The present ration of 6oz a week is 2oz greater than it was in 1949, and for several months it has not been fully taken up. Stocks are much higher than they were in 1949.

Today's engagements

The Queen holds investiture, Buckingham Palace, 11; with Duke of Edinburgh, attends band concert given by Royal Marines to commemorate his 25 years as Captain General, Albert Hall, 7.20.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as chancellor, visits Cambridge University, 10.30.

Shrove Tuesday events: Beauty queens' pancake races, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Holborn, 11; great St Nicholas pancake race, Churchyard, Pier Head, Liverpool, 12.30.

Lunchtime talks: "Some ministries", the Rev A. J. Prescott, St Margaret Pattens, Eastcheap, 1.10; Dialogue, Miss Diana Rigg with the Rev Joseph McCulloch, St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 1.05; "The isle is full of noises", the great years of radio, Derek Parker, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, 1. Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle Street: Carol Evans, organ, Morley Players, 5.45.

Latest appointments



Mr W. K. Reid, aged 47 (above), an under-secretary in the Department of Education and Science, has been appointed Deputy Secretary (Central Services) in the Scottish Office.

Other appointments include
Mr Graham C. Greene, aged 41, managing director of Jonathan Cape, to be a trustee of the British Museum, in succession to Lord Boyd of Merton.
Mrs Phyllis Gordon-Spencer, senior deputy director of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, to be a vice-chairman of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service.

University news

Oxford
Dr James Barr, MA BD (Edin), MA (Manc), Oriel Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture, has been appointed Regius Professor of Hebrew from October 1 in succession to Professor W. D. McHardy, student of Christ Church, who is retiring.
ORIEL COLLEGE: D. L. G. Black, BA (Cape Town), DPhil, lecturer and junior dean of University College, to an official fellowship and tutorship in English literature.

Aberdeen
Appointments
Senior Lecturers: D. J. Wannough, BSc (St And), PhD (St And), biomedical physics and bio-engineering; J. G. Simpson, MB, ChB (Aberd), PhD (Aberd), pathology.
Lecturer: F. N. Porter, MB; ChB (Sheff) child health.
Research fellows: Kam Yee Klewbolany; C. I. Johnston, BSc (Belf), MSc (Belf), PhD 1974, computing centre; Aileen Stone, BSc (Aberd), MSc (Aberd), computing centre; W. L. B. Leese, BM, environmental and offshore medicine; G. G. Ford, MA (Edin), medical sociology; Anat Cliboa, zoology; A. T. McKnight, BSc (Glas), addictive drugs.
Grants
£17,147 *from the Scottish Hospital* Endowments Research Trust to Dr L. A. Fothergill, *for three years, for research* into the structure of the enzyme which regulates the binding of oxygen to haemoglobin.
£17,500 from the Science Research Council to Dr W. A. Hamilton for three years, to extend support for research into bacterial cell physiology.

Belfast
D. G. McDevitt, MD, has been appointed to a personal chair in clinical pharmacology.
Miss E. M. Smallwood, MA, PhD (Cantab), *to a personal chair in* Romano-Jewish history.
L. T. Threadgold, BA, PhD, ScD (Dublin), to a personal chair in parasitology.
The title of professor emeritus has been conferred on Eric A. Cheeseman, BSc (Lond), PhD (Lond).
The title of reader has been conferred on: Dr V. Allen, pathology; Dr P. Broome, french; Dr M. M. Newmann, engineering mathematics.
A grant of £40,866 has been made by the Medical Research Council for research on the proteolytic generation and degradation of glucagon under Dr R. F. Murphy, Professor D. T. Elmore and Professor K. D. Buchanan.

Edinburgh
Appointments
Lecturers: J. Haywood, BSc, PhD, biochemistry; D. H. T. Scott, BSc, MB, ChB, dental surgery; P. J. Harris, BSc, PhD, physiology; A. T. Campbell, MA, BLitt, social anthropology.

Nottingham
P. A. Hoare, MA, has been appointed University Librarian from March.

Hull
Dr P. Ginestier has been appointed to a personal professorship in the department of French.
Readerships: Mrs W. M. D. Borland, Hispanic studies; Dr C. D. Collinson, applied mathematics; A. J. Hodges, music; Dr C. Rutledge, biochemistry; Dr R. C. Ward, geography.

Dundee
From October the faculty of science will offer joint honours degrees in accountancy and mathematics and accountancy and business mathematics. The course, leading to the BSc honours degree, will be over four years. An ordinary degree course, comprising accountancy and mathematics and lasting three years, will be available.

Correction

The heading Warwick was omitted last Friday from the appointment of Professor N. Stern to a professorship in the department of *economics and from several other* appointments at Warwick University.

£5,000 Premium Bond prizewinners

The £5,000 winners in the October Premium bonds draw are:—

1 AT 289701
3 AP 517065
5 AP 783783
3 BF 265499
3 BK 875221
4 BB 450253
5 DP 830378
5 FN 345323
8 FN 066421
4 JP 360695
3 KW 496171
6 KS 507130
7 KL 623767
3 LL 289898
7 LT 691013
8 LF 806718
8 LL 128849
5 MB 480802
NZ 069806
8 NB 263884
PF 195153
2 PP 682467
8 PF 744739
9 PK 007373
10 PT 638873
12 PP 288603
12 PZ 279639
7 QK 803261
7 QS 359437
9 RZ 575846
10 RP 343074
TF 364202
6 TT 854855
4 VN 640770
4 VW 402563
13 VK 382837
11 VP 584501
12 WS 999513
13 WS 387669
4 XB 131379
5 YL 670703
5 YW 098490
8 YL 756657
11 YF 138985
3 ZN 018853
16 ZS 265668
17 ZW 690819
19 ZB 457721
12 ZN 467189
20 ZP 354163
21 ZN 652831
22 ZP 877042
23 ZP 194658

The £1,000 winners are:

AB 188117
AW 245905
1 AK 930167
1 AL 237155
1 AW 679196
2 AS 691117
2 AT 617278
2 AW 991140
3 AZ 933580
3 AP 579884
3 AS 236842
3 AW 577813
4 AF 432270
4 AW 067877
4 AZ 050875
6 AB 577299
6 AZ 081297
BF 356039
1 BN 906828
2 BZ 709903
2 BF 036611
2 BN 739930
2 BP 545719
3 BS 916463
3 BT 941379
3 BF 838307
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4 BZ 322756
4 BS 322588
4 BW 657964
5 BL 305874
5 BS 372916
5 BW 170190
6 BL 586557
6 BL 612480
6 BL 796200
6 BS 979263
6 BW 815896
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2 SL 827341
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10 VL 732456
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15 VT 087211
15 VW 275730
16 VB 865786
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5 YB 733890
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8 YN 527357
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23 ZL 530008
23 ZN 012057
23 ZP 831650
23 ZW 797908
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Science report

Genetics: Mice and human disease

A fresh approach to the study of some incurable hereditary diseases may emerge from experiments in progress with mouse embryos and tumour cells. Using special breeding techniques, Dr B. Mintz and her colleagues at the Fox Chase Cancer Centre in Philadelphia have developed mice with a proportion of their cells lacking a particular enzyme. If the next logical step can be achieved it will produce mice completely lacking that enzyme and thus paralleling a rare but particularly unpleasant human neurological disease known as the Lesch-Nyhan syndrome.

First studied in 1965 by Dr W. Nyhan and Dr M. Lesch, the disease arises from a genetic error that prevents the production of the enzyme hypoxanthine phosphoribosyl transferase (HPRT). Because of that deficiency, part of the body's metabolism is defective, *with resulting symptoms* that include mental retardation, spasticity and an impulse to self-mutilation. As with haemophilia, the disease affects males because the gene responsible for it is carried on the X chromosome.

As with many hereditary diseases, conventional breeding has failed to yield an annimal with the same enzyme deficiency as the human sufferer. Dr Mintz and her *colleagues have gone several steps* towards that goal by making use of a remarkably versatile mouse tumour called teratocarcinoma, which arises in the gonads.

As well as a disorganized mixture of tissues, such as skin, nerve and muscle, teratocarcinomas include a core of cells resembling those of a very young embryo before any specialized tissues have developed. Those cells can be separated and kept in a culture dish. If several such cells are injected into a very young mouse embryo they can multiply and function normally as that embryo develops.

To obtain the cells they wanted, *Dr Mintz and her colleagues* treated teratocarcinoma cells with a mutagen, which caused a high proportion of genetic mutations of various sorts. Then, using a culture solution that selectively killed all other cells, they were able to obtain cells lacking the enzyme HPRT.

Several such cells were injected into each of a group of embryos, which were inserted surgically into the uteri of mice that carried *them* to term. The variegated characteristics of the offspring, including their coat colour, indicated that the injected HPRT deficient cells had multiplied and contributed to many parts of the fully developed "mosaic" mice, including the liver, spleen, heart, brain and gonads.

Mosaic mice with HPRT deficiency in their gonads, where the eggs and sperm are produced, must be mated in the conventional way in attempts to produce fully HPRT deficient—Lesch-Nyhan—mice. If they are produced, it will be possible to study the syndrome in detail and perhaps to look for treatments. But close study of the mosaic mice already available will provide useful information about the effects of HPRT deficiency on various parts of the body.

Dr Mintz and her colleagues regard the development of their mosaic mice, which they say took almost 10 years, as the beginning of a study of development and disease. The products of such a study might include mice with various other genetic diseases, which would thus for the first time be open to thorough investigation.

By Nature-Times News Service.
Source: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, Vol 74, page 5564, December, 1977.
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THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Foord valuers

Wholesale prices increase 1¼ pc despite cut in cost of materials

oline Atkinson

h manufacturers put up holesale prices by 1¼ per January, while the cost r raw materials fell for th successive month.

was shown in the official for wholesale prices, ed yesterday by the nent of Industry.

fall in the "input" last month was ¾ per d it now stands 3¼ per elow its level a year

ise last month in output charged by wholesalers nsiderably sharper than ent months. However, s usually a bunching of ncreases in January.

rise in these prices in , 1977, was 3¼ per cent, r month's increase was west January figure 973.

he last nine months, as been a significant ace in the pattern of turers' costs, as meas- y the wholesale input ndex, and factory gate shown by the wholesale price index.

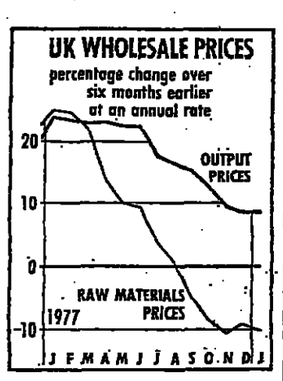
most likely explanation manufacturers have dvantage of the falling raw materials to boost ofit margins. In the past ctory gate prices have 13 per cent despite the non-wage costs.

divergence between raw costs and the prices by wholesalers is to be . The latter are affected e costs, and by the de- spare capacity in indus- well as by the prices stry's raw materials.

ver, industry's wages ve probably not risen by to explain the present

is some evidence that wdown in the price in- on domestic industrial has bottomed out, al- the Government remains ic that there will be a reduction in the rate esale and retail price

st Price Commission re- wed that on its infla- x, based on price rises by large businesses, s been a marked slow-



down in the improvement. The next report, to be published in two or three days' time, is expected to confirm this trend.

However, the year-on-year rise in factory gate prices in January was, at 13 per cent, a distinct improvement on the 15 per cent rise in the 12 months to December, and was the smallest annual rise for four years.

In the past six months there has been a rise of 8.5 per cent in prices charged by wholesalers. This is the same as in the previous month, but as it includes the usually bad month of January it indicates a slight improvement in the underlying trend.

Prices in the shops, as shown by the retail price index, have been going up more slowly in recent months than have wholesale prices. This is explained partly by the different coverage of the two indices and probably partly by a squeezing of retailers' margins.

The rise in the value of the pound has helped to cut the cost of British imports, but will also make British industry less competitive. Food costs are rising more than other costs. In January the food manufacturing industries faced increases of 2¾ per cent in their costs as a result of dearer milk, fish, imported cereals, tea and other foods.

Cheaper coffee has helped to offset the rise in factory gate prices of other foods, leaving an overall rise of ¼ per cent last month in the output prices of food manufacturers.

Wholesale prices table ; page 18

Franc slide continues despite bank support

By Our Economics Staff

A rise in short-term interest rates in France—to 9¼ per cent in day-to-day money—was not sufficient to stop a further weakening of the franc on the foreign exchanges.

Against the dollar the French currency fell from F4.91 at Friday's close to F4.93. It has lost 4 per cent of its value against the dollar and the Deutschemark since last Tuesday.

Sterling also lost ground on the exchanges yesterday, as the markets continued nervous about the outlook for wages and the money supply in Britain.

The pound closed at 1.939 against the dollar, compared to $1.9415 on Friday. The effective rate, measured against a basket of currencies, dropped 0.1 to 66.2.

Trading was not as hectic as on Friday, however, and dealers attribute this in part to the Bank of France's moves to prop up the franc. It was seen to be intervening again in the markets yesterday.

Pressure on the franc seems to come initially from commercial selling. Large motor companies in Germany have been switching out of the franc, according to one dealer.

Other companies all over the world have also been converting their francs in so-called leading and lagging back payments.

Sterling and the dollar also weakened considerably during the day, although they recovered much lost ground before the close. Money switching out of France is going chiefly into Deutschemarks and Swiss francs, the traditionally strong currencies.

Although these two countries do not welcome the further appreciation of their currencies the rises are not yet thought to warrant concerted international action to bolster the franc.

The reasons behind the franc's fall are mainly political. France's ballance of payments has improved recently. Some dealers believe that even if there is a victory of the left in the coming elections the move out of francs will soon slow down.

Sterling went to a discount against the dollar in the forward markets yesterday. This mainly reflected interest movements, but the pound is no longer seen as a "hard" currency as it was just a few weeks ago.

Leyland deal to deter wildcat strikes

By R. W. Shakespeare

More than 100,000 workers in Leyland car plants are covered by a new shopfloor deal which gives them much improved layoff pay when work stops because of reasons outside their control, but imposes a stiff "penalty" clause" on those who take part in unconstitutional strikes.

The deal has emerged from Leyland's new central negotiating body, and represents the last major achievement of Mr Geoffrey Whalen, industrial relations director of Leyland Cars before his resignation.

Signed by all car unions, the agreement is an attempt to maintain the earnings of workers at an average level when they are made idle by disputes either outside the company or in other Leyland supplying companies. But at the same time it seeks to deter unofficial strikes by disqualifying those who take part in them from the layoff guarantees for three months.

Last year alone Leyland car plants lost well over three million man hours and the production of some 200,000 cars because of layoffs due to "external" disputes.

Under the deal, men laid off because of strikes outside the company will get a guaranteed 15 days' pay in each quarter on full basic rate. When the layoffs results from disputes in other Leyland sectors the guarantee is seven days in each quarter at 80 per cent of normal basic rate.

Previous layoff agreements, which had been negotiated on a plant-by-plant basis, gave seven days' pay for external disputes and five days for internal disputes, both at 80 per cent of basic rate.

The tough penalty clause will mean that any workers taking part in what the company describes as "unconstitutional disputes"—as opposed to unofficial stoppages, which can sometimes be "constitutional"—will forfeit all entitlement to layoff pay during the following quarter.

The agreement is being backdated to November, and from March 1 this year there will be other clauses that will give fresh guarantees on pay for workers absent because of bereavement, hospital attendance, civic duties and certain other reasons.

A Leyland spokesman has described the deal as "one of the most advanced in the industry".

Meanwhile the group still has a major industrial relations problem on its hands, with the strike at the Triumph car plant on Merseyside, which enters its fifteenth week today with all production of TR7 and Dolomite cars stopped and 8,000 workers idle.

Shop stewards from the Liverpool plant who met yesterday said later they had postponed plans to call a mass meeting tomorrow because fresh meetings would be taking place with the management. They would consider a date for a meeting after these talks.

The initiative for fresh talks is believed to have come from a meeting just before the weekend involving Mr Pat Lowry, Leyland's director of personnel and administration, Mr Moss Evans, of the Transport & General Workers and Mr Hugh Scanlon, of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

There has clearly been some pressure on the Merseyside stewards to agree to participate in fresh negotiations. The dispute has already cost Leyland lost production worth more than £80m.

A strike in the nearby Ford plant at Halewood, Liverpool, continues into its fifth week with 9,000 workers laid off because of a stoppage by 1,000 press shop operators. Lost production of Escort cars is running at well over £40m.

Ford has also had to lay off workers at its Transit van factory at Southampton, which relies on the Merseyside plant for supplies of transmission units.

World trade on danger course, Gatt chief says

By David Blake

As the Tokyo Round of negotiations on trade go into their final phase, Mr Olivier Long, the Director General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, yesterday gave a warning that world trade was set on a dangerous course towards increasing restrictions and an abandonment of liberal principles.

At a meeting organized by the Trade Policy Research Centre, Mr Long called for an end to the "decline in morality in international trade relations". A restoration of the rule of law in international trade was every bit as important as further progress in liberalization, he argued.

The purpose of Mr Long's speech was to look beyond the current round of trade talks to the international trading environment which would emerge after them.

For all countries, he argued, security of access to markets is what makes the gains of liberalization worth while. Yet at the moment governments continually sidestepped the rules of Gatt to give temporary protection to industries.

According to Gatt estimates, Mr Long said, something like $100,000m worth of trade a year was now covered by restrictions of some sort.

Mr Long recognized that simple free trade was no longer a practical proposition if it ever was. Instead, he called for a continuous liberalization of trade coupled with properly agreed international procedures to control the measures which governments took to deal with specific problems.

On the positive side that would mean prompt action to help industries facing new competition to adjust. At present adjustment assistance was usually given so late that workers had found new jobs before they received the money.

On the negative side, it meant a properly agreed code of conduct on the measures which governments could adopt to reduce the impact of foreign competition.

Mr Long called for agreement on the special safeguard measures governed by Article 19 of the Gatt which could be adopted. Most industrial countries felt that the terms of this clause were too restrictive to allow it to be of much use.

Because of this, there had been widespread use of safeguard measures which were discriminatory and which just ignored the terms of Article 19.

Mr Long said that any new safeguard clause, which would presumably be tougher, had to be subjected to international surveillance.

Secondly, he called for joint action to control subsidies and countervailing duties.

He also sought a strengthening of the rules which governed the settlement of disputes, which were bound to arise in coming years.

Mr Long said that adjustment to the new economic importance of developing countries which were industrializing posed a big challenge to the world.

Overall, what was required was a recognition of the need for joint international management of world trade questions

Swan Hunter to make 1,152 men redundant

By Peter Hill

More than 1,100 workers employed in the Tyneside shipyards of Swan Hunter are to be made redundant following the company's loss of its share of the £115m Polish order because of labour disputes.

The redundancies represent the first major job-shedding exercise in the industry since nationalization last summer against a background of worldwide overcapacity.

The decision is expected to spark off a major row in the Commons later today since the men are expected to qualify for severance payments under the special redundancy scheme being framed for the shipbuilding industry.

The Bill is scheduled to reach its report and third reading stage tonight but Mr Michael Grylls Conservative MP for NW Surrey, and vice-chairman of the Tory industry committee, said Opposition support for the Bill was related to redundancy payments being made in line with reductions in the industry's capacity.

"We would be opposed to payments being made to workers made redundant as a result of self-inflicted wounds. The Bill is intended to reduce the industry's labour force and bring it down to a reasonable size", he said.

After the announcement that Swan Hunter, now part of British Shipbuilders, had issued 90-day redundancy notices to 1,152 men—mainly members of the Boilermakers Society—Mr John Hepplewhite, a part-time director of BS and an executive member of the union said: "We intend to fight these redundancies. These are 90-day notices, so we have ample opportunity to have discussions with the company."

Mr Frank Arthurs, a Tyneside official of the society said: "If they cannot be avoided then we will be seeking the best possible terms for our members. We will certainly want to look at voluntary redundancies."

The Bill before Parliament makes provision for payments of about £3,600, although the final sums could be larger when related to age and length of service.

Mr Norman Sloan, the Swan Hunter director who made the announcement said: "It is sad news. There is no doubt if we had obtained the Polish orders we would not have been in this position today."

Workers had expected about 700 redundancies and Mr Sloan said the numbers would probably come as a shock to them.

The cutbacks follow a long running dispute between outfit trades and boilermakers at the yards over pay differentials. Failure of the unions to provide guarantees of cooperation and industrial peace led British Shipbuilders to reassign orders for seven ships under the Polish deal to other yards on the Tees and Clyde.

NEB finance switch from loans to equity

By Edward Townsend

Sir Leslie Murphy, chairman of the National Enterprise Board, yesterday outlined a new philosophy for the future funding of British Leyland with the emphasis on equity financing and annual reviews of the company's progress.

The move marks a radical change in the financing process of the last year, when Leyland had been given loan capital based on three-monthly investigations of its operations and subject to "significant" improvements in industrial relations.

At a press conference called to mark the end of his first six months as head of the NEB, Sir Leslie admitted that the previous concept "does not seem to have worked". The NEB now favoured the provision of funds based on an annual review "and that is the system we will operate from now".

Sir Leslie reiterated the board's "fullest confidence" in Mr Michael Edwardes, the former NEB member who is now chairman of British Leyland.

The BL board, armed with the success of Mr Edwardes's meetings with shop stewards, managers and dealers last week, is now putting the finishing touches to a revised corporate plan which will go before the NEB within the next two weeks.

Mr Edwardes is believed to be thinking in terms of a five-year plan involving an investment of about £1,000m, and Sir Leslie, who took over the NEB chairmanship from Lord Ryder, said the NEB was not contemplating any increase in the original Ryder report proposals for financing.

The Ryder plan assessed Leyland's need for capital from external resources at £1,400m by 1980-81.

But he said that the next tranche of funds, based on the proposals contained in the corporate plan, and due to be announced publicly in March, would almost certainly be in the form of equity finance rather than further loans. He did not rule out the possibility of further broadening the company's asset base with more equity money next year.



Sir Leslie Murphy: "Full confidence in Mr Michael Edwardes."

Following the government's initial equity injection of £200m into BL, the NEB has advanced loan capital of £150m. The company recently borrowed a further £50m from commercial sources which, Sir Leslie said, had not been guaranteed by the NEB.

He stressed that in the long term Leyland should have a debt-equity structure comparable with companies in the private sector.

The Ryder strategy envisaged that Leyland should match external finance from its own resources, and Sir Leslie, while not repeating that provision, said it was essential that Leyland generate "a large amount" internally. "If it is not in that position in five years I would be extremely worried."

Sir Leslie went on: "Leyland is not being dismembered, and I would not preside over that. It is a change of organization so that the units are more manageable. I think it can be completely viable, but it requires a major effort."

Financial Editor, page 19

o profits np in quarter

ıond Quigley

arnings at Inco, the argest single producer , collapsed in the final of 1977 to $4.6m from the same period the year, leaving full-year early halved at $99.9m 31.7m).

is been hit severely by tic downturn in the rket and is instituting n cutbacks. The reported that the arter's decline in earn- substantially due to ickel deliveries, lower nickel and copper change losses rather s, and provisions for ies.

'No hope' of jobless cut to 3pc by next year

By Melvyn Westlake

There is no longer any hope of meeting the unemployment target of 3 per cent by 1979 set by the Government in 1976, Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said yesterday.

Replying to questions from MPs on an all-party House of Commons Select Committee, he said that "regrettably" unemployment would not fall as quickly as had been hoped. At present the number of jobless was almost double the 1979 target.

Mr Barnett was the principal witness appearing before the main subcommittee of the Expenditure Committee, which is holding a series of sessions to examine the Government's latest spending plans. He told MPs that any significant improvement in the level of unemployment would have to be achieved through the Government's industrial strategy.

Mr Barnett also warned them against expecting too much in the way of tax cuts in the immediate future. He wanted to see "substantial" cuts in direct taxation in real terms in future years. But expectations may have risen too far about what could be done in the immediate future. There were a number of other areas which demanded attention.

Mr Barnett appeared concerned that too much credence should not be given to some of the wilder estimates about the extent of the tax cuts that the Chancellor will unveil in his next Budget.

There have been suggestions in some quarters that there might be cuts of as much as £3,000m. A wide circulation of such estimates could clearly lead to great disappointment if the eventual tax reductions proved to be more modest.

Mr Barnett refused to accept the "gloomy" picture which MPs insisted had been painted at a committee hearing at the end of last week.

Mr Fred Cassell, an undersecretary, had admitted then that unemployment was still likely to be above a million in 1982. To bring unemployment down faster would require a continuing rate of economic growth of 3½ per cent, he had conceded.

Such a rate would have caused a serious deterioration in Britain's trade balance.

This gloomy view may be correct if we simply extrapolate it from Britain's past experience. However, Mr Barnett said that the nation had a chance to do better than in the past. But he pointed our that what happened here depended partly on what happened in other countries, and the situation did not look good in several of them.

Much would depend on whether countries like West Germany could be persuaded to expand their own economies.

MPs on the subcommittee pressed Mr Barnett to show whether there was any evidence that cuts in public spending during 1976 had led to higher investment and exports, as this had been the principal justification for such action.

He argued that it did not follow that limiting public expenditure automatically or necessarily led to higher private investment and exports, but if there had not been such a tight grip on the resources absorbed by the public sector, there would either have been a rise in taxation or the Government would have had to borrow more, with greater consequences for jobs than resulted from the public spending cuts.

Varley evidence resumes on BSC

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, yesterday spent two and a half hours giving evidence to the Select Committee on Nationalized Industries investigating the financial performance of the British Steel Corporation.

Nordic Bank

Summary of Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1977

Consolidated Balance Sheet	1977 £'000	1976 £'000
Share Capital	9,333	7,000
Reserves	4,343	2,664
	13,676	9,664
Subordinated Loans	18,163	8,812
	31,839	18,476
Current and Deposit Accounts	415,524	296,878
Other Liabilities	10,500	8,058
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Funds	457,863	323,412
Cash at Banks, Money at Call and Short Notice	63,945	33,288
Certificates of Deposit and Bills of Exchange	21,082	15,481
Deposits with Banks	55,839	56,218
Quoted Securities	6,701	3,698
Loans and Advances, repayable within 1 year	129,585	90,623
Loans and Advances, repayable after 1 year	168,661	114,593
Other Assets	12,050	9,511
Total Assets	457,863	323,412

Consolidated Profit and Loss Account	£'000	£'000
Operating Profit	3,132	1,573
Less: Interest on Subordinated Loans	920	663
Profit before Taxation	2,212	910
Taxation	1,190	555
Profit after Taxation	1,022	355
Proposed Dividend	280	—
Unappropriated Profit for the year	742	355
Retained Earnings brought forward	1,164	809
Retained Earnings carried forward	1,906	1,164

Nordic Bank Limited

Nordic Bank Limited
Nordic Bank House
41-43 Mincing Lane
London EC3R 7SP
Telephone: 01-626 9661
Telex: 887654-5

Shareholding Banks
Copenhagen Handelsbank Copenhagen
Den norske Creditbank Oslo
Kansallis-Osake-Pankki Helsinki
Svenska Handelsbanken Stockholm

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Secretary's office

low in strike league

m Brown

is well down the ike league, according International Labour Geneva.

partment of Employ- yesterday that the lealt a heavy blow to rike-bound Britain"

and comes out best LO study, which is the average number per 1,000 employees in industrial disputes years from 1967 to

Switzerland lost fewer than five. Worst was Canada, which lost 1,906. Seven countries lost more days than the United Kingdom, whose total was 788. These included the Irish Republic, Finland, Australia, the United States, India, Italy and Canada.

In a report on strikes in Britain, published yesterday, the department's newspaper *Employment News* claims that 98 per cent of British manufacturing plants are strike-free in any one year.

Can the ILO adjust? page 19

Bonn surplus at 21-month high

Frankfurt, Feb 6.—The West German overall balance of payments surplus climbed in December to its highest level since March, 1976, reflecting turbulent conditions on the foreign exchange market during the month, the Central Bank reported today.

The overall balance produced a preliminary surplus of DM6,422m (£1,605m) compared with DM2,382m in November, and a deficit of DM316m in the corresponding month of 1976.—AP-Dow Jones.

Mr Jenkins defends monetary union idea

Continued from page 1

up capital exports while the current account surplus was being brought down.

But he was notably softer in tone than some Government ministers have been recently with the Japanese, saying that he felt that the Japanese authorities now realized the problems which their surplus was causing, and stressing the need to understand their difficulties.

It is an acceptance of the difficulty facing surplus countries with a heavy dependence on exports in stimulating their domestic economies which underlies the Governor's approach to the need for joint European action and lies at the heart of his proposal.

He argues that since surplus countries find it difficult to expand domestic demand and deficit countries have to worry about their balance of payments, the problem could be solved if they all moved together.

In saying this, he seemed to be moving towards the declared position of both the German Government and of the Secretariat of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development at the last meeting of the International Monetary Fund in Washington in September.

At that meeting, this position was opposed by the United States, which continue to argue that expansion of the world economy remains the prime responsibility of the "Big Three" countries—the United States, Germany and Japan.

The Governor stressed that it was important not to allow a new outbreak of inflation. He supported the generally restrictive stance of monetary and fiscal policy adopted by governments in recent years.

However, he said that at the present time not all the inflationary risks lay in one direction. A continuation of stagnation leading to protection could also cause upward pressure on prices.

Mr Richardson also argued that an overall expansion in growth might lead to a more satisfactory sharing out of the burden of payments deficits between countries.

He was speaking after Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the European Commission, who defended his recent proposals for reviving the idea of an economic and monetary union within Europe.

Mr Richardson carefully refrained from challenging the broad structure of Mr Jenkins's arguments, saying that he wished to complement them rather than to dispute or to duplicate his analysis.



Mr Jenkins (left) with Mr John Baring, president of the Overseas Bankers' Club, at last night's banquet. Mr Richardson is on the right.

Mr Jenkins said Europe could no longer rely solely on the United States to provide the world with financial stability. A move to a common currency could give Europe a major stabilizing influence in world monetary affairs.

He dealt with three criticisms which have been levelled against his proposal. He said that the prospect of enlarging the Community from its present nine members to 12 strengthened the case for monetary union rather than weakening it.

Secondly, he did not accept that to have monetary union it was necessary to have equal performance in different parts of the EEC. Both strong and weak parts of the Community would benefit through a common currency.

The third argument, that governments would be asked to give up their power over economies, was based on an illusion, since external forces limited them already.

the markets moved

The Times index : 192.51—0.12
The FT index : 458.1—0.6

Coal	5p to 450p	Glaxo	5p to 562p
	10p to 405p	Gt Univ Stores	6p to 286p
	5p to 622p	IDC Grp	4p to 116p
	6p to 766p	Photo-Me Int	5p to 270p
I	15p to 420p	Takeda Bdr	45p to 930p
Syd	7p to 133p	Union Corp	6p to 268p
	4p to 42p	Wigfall H.	6p to 266p
ount	7p to 243p	Norton & Wright	17p to 163p
r	7p to 114p	Sale Tilney	8p to 210p
Tst	10p to 310p	Selection Tst	6p to 380p
p	11p to 368p	Smurfit	7p to 174p
C.	9p to 100p	Tube Invest	6p to 380p
ale	7p to 230p	Union Discount	10p to 430p
	10p to 144p	Wilkinson Match	7p to 179p

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r Continental selling.
mium 77.5 per cent
ate 31.75).
25 pts to $1.9390. The change rate index was

Gold gained $0.75 to $175.625.
SDR-$ was 1.21180 on Monday, while SDR-£ was 0.626415.

Commodities : Reuter's index was at 1399.4 (previous 1399.4).

Reports, pages 20 and 21

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.76	1.71
Austria Sch	30.50	28.50
Belgian Fr	65.25	62.25
Canada $	2.20	2.14
Denmark Kr	11.38	10.98
Finland Mkk	7.95	7.65
France Fr	9.80	9.45
Germany Dm	4.24	4.02
Greece Dr	75.50	72.00
Hongkong $	9.20	8.75
Italy Lr	1770.00	1695.00
Japan Yn	490.00	465.00
Netherlands Gld	4.53	4.31
Norway Kr	10.16	9.80
Portugal Esc	85.50	79.50
S Africa Rd	2.00	1.85
Spain Pes	165.00	158.00
Sweden Kr	9.25	8.90
Switzerland Fr	3.98	3.76
US $	1.99	1.93
Yugoslavia Dnr	39.75	37.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

r pages

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Sharp increases in retail sales during December confirmed

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

Sharp increases in retail sales during December are confirmed by revised estimates published yesterday which show an overall increase of 3 per cent.

The rise may be explained partly as a problem of seasonal adjustment, since the shopping period *before Christmas* was slightly longer than usual, but there is little doubt that tax rebates and increases in gross earnings combined to produce a sharp surge in retail purchases.

This is expected to continue in the first half of 1978.

However, the December increase still leaves the volume of retail sales little higher during the last quarter of 1977 than in the previous three months.

For the year as a whole, trade was down 2½ per cent on 1976, with food shops down particularly sharply. These shops recovered some of their lost ground during the final quarter of the year, with an increase of 1 per cent over the previous quarter.

Sales by clothing and footwear shops also rose by 1 per cent, while department stores and mail order businesses showed a 1 per cent drop.

But although the overall level of sales rose sharply in December, the amount of new credit of all kinds extended fell slightly. After seasonal adjustments it stood at £414m in December compared with £425m in the previous month.

The amount of credit extended by finance houses went up from £199m to £209m, but retailers' credit fell from £226m to £205m.

During the last quarter retailers' new credit was £641m, compared to £632m in the third quarter, after making seasonal adjustments.

Finance house credit was £580m, compared with £546m in the previous quarter. During the year as a whole, the biggest increase in credit sales was recorded by the miscellaneous "other credit retailers group", whose sales were up 23 per cent on 1976.

Department stores sales went up 5 per cent and durable goods stores sales on credit rose 4 per cent.

RETAIL SALES

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for the volume of retail sales and value of new instalment credit released by the Department of Industry:

	Sales by volume 1970=100	Percentage change latest 3 months on previous 3 months at annual rate	New credit extd. £m
1976			
Dec	105.2	−5.2	331
1977			
Jan	104.5	−3.0	324
Feb	104.0	0.2	342
March	101.7	−5.6	351
April	102.3	−8.6	346
May	103.2	−8.2	356
June	102.3	−3.1	352
July	105.0	−3.5	365
Aug	105.2	7.8	417
Sept	103.9	8.4	396
Oct	103.3	2.5	382
Nov	103.8	−1.9	425
Dec	107.0	1.2	414

Administrative cost of tax changes worry life assurance groups

By Richard Allen

British life assurance groups are bracing themselves for additional administration costs running into "many millions of pounds" as a result of a tax change due to come into force *in April next year.*

From that date life assurance premiums will become payable to life offices net of tax relief under a provision made in the 1976 Finance Act.

The new measure, introduced mainly to effect staff savings within the Inland Revenue, was not opposed by the life companies.

But yesterday, Mr P. W. Sharman, chairman of the Life Offices Association, admitted that the effects on insurers have turned out to be "much more complicated than we first thought."

Details of the new scheme are expected within a few weeks, but already several major groups are talking of new developments grinding to a complete standstill for at least a year while administrative staff grapple with its complexities.

Many life office chiefs are particularly incensed because they believe the staff savings within the Inland Revenue that the new scheme is meant to achieve—up to 1,500 jobs—is unlikely to prove practicable.

They also believe that the loss of revenue likely to result, though small, will far outweigh the savings made in Inland Revenue staff costs even if the plan is totally successful.

To the vast majority of policyholders the tax changes will have no material effect. Tax relief now given on the annual schedule basis will simply be replaced by an equivalent reduction in premiums payable.

In fact some life offices *believe that the illusory reduc*tion in life insurance costs as far as quoted premium rates are concerned could provide a marketing boon.

But this advantage will be heavily outweighed by the administrative problems

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ship subsidies: charity should begin at home

From Mr Paul Slater

Sir, The price to be paid for preserving jobs in British shipyards continues to rise at an alarming rate at a time when the British merchant marine is facing its most serious crisis since the war.

The British taxpayer is already being asked to pay nearly £100m to secure orders *from Poland* and India, and indications are that this figure could double this year with further orders from Poland, Pakistan, Mexico, Venezuela and Vietnam. All this without any offer of cheaper ships for British shipowners or better credit terms for our domestic shipping industry.

It is grossly irresponsible for Government Ministers to condone subsidising the Comecon fleet at a time when the General Council of British Shipowners give warning that the Eastern block countries are *dumping ships into* an already depressed market and thereby seriously jeopardizing the future of British seamen.

The further proposal to subsidize the merchant marine of a country with such an oppressive regime as Vietnam, by the same Government which refused to build ships for Chile *or South Africa*, will no doubt earn much gratitude for the Government among its newfound communist business partners, but win few friends amongst our Asian allies, particularly if the ships concerned are built with any military capability.

If the Government is to continue to support the British *shipbuilding* industry then at least let the subsidies required to do so be directed towards other sectors of British industry and in particular assist the British shipowners rather than subsidize our commercial and political opponents.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL SLATER,
President, Oceanic Finance Corporation, Ltd,
Princes House,
95 Gresham Street,
London, EC2.

Paying home bills when abroad

From Mr C. G. Brain

Sir, May a one-time bank manager say that Mr W. A. Anil-Karunaratne's advice to Mr G. U. Dyke (January 30) *to overcome the problem* of making payments while abroad is unnecessarily cumbrous. All Mr Dyke need do is to write to his bank authorizing them to "pay the under-mentioned accounts when submitted pending my return to the United Kingdom". If he wishes to restrict the upper amount of any payment he can add against the name of the payee concerned: "Not to exceed £xx."

Mr Dyke can then telephone or write to the payees concerned instructing them to forward their accounts to the bank when due. Even domestic employees can be paid in cash weekly by this means, if the need arises.

The bank can send a "manager's cheque" in payment or arrange to credit the payee's account by bank Giro if they supply the necessary details. The bank may make a nominal charge for this service but it is the most satisfactory and simple method of overcoming the problem and avoids all of Mr Anil-Karunaratne's complicated contortions.

Incidentally, I should like to know why he considers "not transferable" to be a necessary addition to the crossing of a cheque once "a/c payee only" has been added. Any bank crediting to an account other than that of the payee would certainly be at risk.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. BRAIN,
Moonrakers,
Pit Farm Road,
Guildford GU1 2JL.
January 31.

Farmland 'devastated' by opencast coal mining

From Mr H. D. Napier, Member of the Derwent Valley Protection Society

Sir, Mr Donald Davies, chairman of the Opencast Executive (January 30) has a vested *interest in perpetuating an or*ganization that is redundant in its present form. If is to be expected that he would trot out *ad nauseam* the old chestnut of balance of payments which can no longer be substantiated. The Central Electricity Generating Board uses the most cost effective power stations for their base load, whether gas, oil, coal or nuclear-powered.

Private contractors, who also have an enormous vested interest in opencast work, have their own machine operators who move from site to site. Only a small number of casual labourers are employed from local areas.

Opencast coal is a direct threat to the deep mining industry *who are struggling* to regain their proper place in the energy spectrum. What incentive is generated in the authentic mining industry if opencast mavericks add to the stockpiles? *World supply of all* grades of coal, including high-grade coking coal, exceeds demand.

Increasing stocks in the United Kingdom, in the EEC and all other coal-producing countries, is obvious in international statistics. The effect of the miners' productivity deal is not even mentioned. The taxpayer is having to subsidize coal stocks in excess of the statutory levels held by the CEGB at the National Coal Board's request.

Derelict land has largely been cleared, nevertheless, the Opencast Executive are "ruthlessly" "devastating" "indiscriminately" about 7,000 acres (10 sq miles) of valuable farmland every year. Having appeared at four opencast *public inquiries* since 1971 and won three (the result of the fourth is still awaited), our team of investigators have gathered factual and statistical evidence that totally destroys *the claims of quality of res*tored land. Evidence from soil experts and farmers from all over the United Kingdom substantiate this.

These and many other facts have been produced in evidence at public inquiries without challenge or rebuttal by the Opencast Executive. Their own evidence has been proved to be misleading and inaccurate and by their own admission they are only concerned to meet a self-set target, regardless of present and future needs and regardless of the *impact on the countryside* and the people who live there.

They rely entirely upon the Secretary of State who is judge and jury of his own case despite the inspector's recommendation.

H. D. NAPIER,
24 Mill Farm Road,
Hamsterley Mill,
Rowlands Gill,
Tyne and Wear, NE39 1NW.

Right formula for good labour relations

From Mr W. McMillan

Sir, In your excellent survey of the chemical industry (January 26) your correspondent wrote of this industry's good industrial relations. His opinion was based on our having "only one day man lost *annually* through strikes over the past six years."

In fact, our record is ever better than that. We lost only one day per man over the *entire period of six years!*

Yours faithfully,
W. McMILLAN,
Director,
External Relations,
Chemical Industries Association Ltd,
Alembic House,
93 Albert Embankment,
London, SE1 7TU.
January 30.

CBI stick to Bullock opposition

By Malcolm Brown

Industrial leaders told the Prime Minister yesterday that they had not budged from their total opposition to the proposals for worker participation embodied in the Bullock report.

A delegation from the Confederation of British Industry, *led by Mr John Greenborough*, the CBI president, told Mr Callaghan that a great deal had been achieved in the past year on participation on a voluntary basis. This voluntary approach *was working.*

Mr Callaghan, who made it clear to the industrial team that he was seeking common ground, said that he would shortly be raising the subject in discussions with the TUC. He gave no indication when the Government might produce its White Paper.

Mr Callaghan was accompanied by Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment; Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, and Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

During the 90-minute meeting, the CBI team told Mr Callaghan and his colleagues that in a recent survey of 957 companies, some 750 said that they provided regular business information *to their employees*, and 650 had regular consultative arrangements.

Mr Callaghan said the time was not right for legislation, but he made it plain that he meant to press ahead to get some form of agreement.

West should be able to increase exports of capital goods and technology

UK hopes for China trade boost

By Derek Harris

Increasing evidence of an expansion in trade between the People's Republic of China and the rest of the industrialized world, with Britain in the running for its share of the increase, was underlined by a series of speakers at a London conference yesterday.

Even the problem for the Chinese of funding expansion through international credit was not seen as an insuperable hurdle.

The conference—on the prospects for trade between China and Britain, organized by Business Perspectives in association with *The Times*—was told by Mr Chu Chi-yuan, China's Chargé d'Affaires in London, that although his country always tried to follow the path of self-reliance that did not mean a closed-door policy on trade.

Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, thought that China could well offer a steadily expanding market for British industrial goods over the next 20 years, during which time China's foreign trade could triple in real terms.

Although *in the short-term* there might be demand to fill occasional gaps, in the long-term it looked likely that Chinese imports of such commodities as iron and steel, foodstuffs and fertilizer—which acccunted for 40 per cent of 1976 imports—might decline as domestic production expanded, Mr Dell said.

But that should help the increase of China's imports of Western advanced technology and capital goods, offering opportunities for makers of capital plant and industrial machinery provided the technology was advanced and the prices competitive.

He did not see China taking in many consumer goods, but rather becoming a significant exporter of these and light industrial goods.

Mr Dell said that prospects for Sino-British trade had changed since inflation hit *British competitiveness in* 1973 and 1974. That had left, in 1976, West Germany selling nearly six times as much to China than the United Kingdom and France more than *three times as much.* "The Chinese are now well aware of our strengthened domestic economy and our ability to quote competitively.

"It is important that we should vigorously follow up this opportunity and try to expand our exports into new areas of capital equipment besides those, such as aerospace and mining machinery, in which we have been successful before."

China had always been a highly competitive market, he said, but he was confident that Britain could compete in some of the key sectors of China's foreign trade, given perseverance by companies, without necessarily expecting a rapid return.

The main opportunities were expected to lie in the provision of technology, capital equipment and sometimes bulk supplies in sectors like steel, non-ferrous metals, chemicals, mining machinery, oil and gas extraction and processing, internal communications particularly railways, power generation and agriculture.

Lord Robens, chairman of Vickers, underlined the trade prospects in the heavy industrial sector now that there was a realistic and concrete target for China's agricultural mech*anization*, the development of its industry, its science and technology and defence.

He added: "There is the possibility, too, of an enormous spin-off for medium-sized and smaller companies in this country once the big companies have gone in first." But in his experience it was vital to deliver on time.

Mr Edward Heath, who recently returned from his third visit to China, said that country now offered the prospect of the sort of political stability potential exporters needed to *look for.*

He believed the new momentum for foreign trade would not diminish even when the present older generation of China's leaders gave way to a younger generation.

He went on: "I think we have still some credit for recognizing the People's Republic early after the Revolution and for establishing full diplomatic relations in 1972. There is a warmth and friendliness towards us.

A critical psychological milestone for the Chinese was when Russia suddenly withdrew all help in 1959. They would never want to be so dependent on a single country again. That meant the Chinese would spread their activities, including those of trade, widely among a number of countries. This was an important factor in the Chinese wanting to avoid her indebtedness abroad, he suggested.

Lord Roll, chairman of S. G. Warburg, the merchant bankers, and leader of the recent Business Perspectives/*The Times* trade mission to China, said that he did not believe in a sudden explosion of trade between China and Britain. But, particularly given the present low level of that trade, he believed that the next three years should see a great upsurge.

There was, undoubtedly, a great willingness to do more trade with Europe—witness the recent initialled trade agreement between the EEC and China—and Britain in particular, *Lord Roll said.*

But China's drive for self-reliance meant countries like Britain had to give up any thought of joint ventures or investment in China. Nor would the Chinese take on foreign bank debt as such.

China's payments policy for imports was either spot cash or deferred terms from the supplier. "But will this suffice as foreign trade expands?" Lord Roll asked.

Sir John Keswick, vice-president of the Sino-British Trade Council and deputy leader of *a recent United Kingdom trade* mission to China, suggested that a financing possibility was to make an arrangement through the EEC. Or he felt the Chinese might accept an International Monetary Fund loan.



Mr Edward Heath and Sir John Keswick, vice-president Sino-British Trade Council.

Japanese pledge on car export curbs unlikely

Tokyo, Feb 6.—British car manufacturers seem unlikely to obtain any firm undertaking from the Japanese to limit sales of their cars in Britain this year. This is the view of industry sources on the eve of talks here.

Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders' figures show Japanese car sales of 140,145 in Britain in 1977 accounted for 10.6 per cent of the market. The sources said Japanese producers are likely to offer only vague assurances on limiting sales, while promising to consider increased purchases of British-made components.

The sources are concerned that to accede formally to a request for restraint in one market could lead to similar demands from elsewhere. They said any export restraint by Japan would be more likely to boost car imports from other countries rather than help the British industry. Car imports from other countries increased 23.1 per cent last year.—Reuter.

Food processors appeal for relief from VAT

By Hugh Clayton

Food processors have appealed to the Government to stop imposing value-added tax on food. They first made the attempt in 1975 after tax which had been removed by the Conservatives was reimposed by Labour.

Sir Hector Laing, chairman of the Food and Drink Industries Council, has told Mr Healey, the Chancellor, that the case for zero-rating of all foods has strengthened in the past year.

Sir Hector said in a letter released yesterday that taxed foods were basic and made a growing contribution to the diet. At the same time the Government was making tax cuts far greater than the £130m which was levied through VAT on food last year.

The taxed foods are concentrated fruit juices, nuts, crisps, chocolate and sugar confectionery, chocolate biscuits, ice cream and soft drinks. Zero-rating of them is one of the few *issues on which the council*, which represents trade associations, has been able to adopt a united front in public.

Fed expert says fall in dollar will cut deficit

Washington, Feb 6.—Mr Henry Wallich, a member of the Federal Reserve Board, today gave evidence on the fall in the value of the dollar to the Senate international finance sub-committee.

He said Fed studies showed that without major secondary disturbances in exchange rate movements "the depreciation in the dollar's weighted average exchange value since September will lower the current account deficit by $1,560m (£772m) to $3,000m at an annual rate by the end of 1978".

The figure would be $4,000m to $5,500m at the end of 1979 compared to the deficit that otherwise would have prevailed.

Mr Wallich said nearly all the trade balance impact of the exchange rate change came from the export side. The Fed estimated that the rise in dollar import prices caused by the drop in the dollar would just about offset the decline in import volume resulting from that drop.

Mr Anthony Solomon, the Treasury Under Secretary, told the sub-committee that he believed that in absolute numbers "our trade deficit is likely to begin trending down before the year is out."

Mr Solomon said he was confident that the near future would see "a steady and en*couraging growth*" for American exports.

The United States would not use intervention to prevent foreign exchange rates from responding to changes in underlying economic and financial conditions in an orderly fashion.

He said that in late 1977 American attempts or actions to stabilize rates were limited and did not signify an attempt to maintain the exchange rate at any particular level.

Dr Alice Rivlin, director of the Congressional Budget Office, said in a presentation to the House budget committee that if current spending and tax policies were continued "inflation rates are expected to be in the 5.7 per cent to 6.7 per cent range in both 1978 and 1979—about the same as the increase in non-food prices during 1977".—AP-Dow Jones.

300 more jobs to go at Reliant plant

As part of a campaign to return to *profitability* another 300 jobs are to be cut from the 1,300 workforce at Reliant car manufacturing plant at Tamworth, Staffordshire. Over the past two years Reliant has already cut its workforce from 2,000 and now it expects voluntary redundancies. The company is owned by F. Nasti Securities.

Tractor cut-back: The International Harvester is to make 910 workers redundant at its Bradford factory. An economic crisis in Turkey has resulted in the factory losing orders worth more than £2m a year. Production is to be reduced by almost a third.

The factory, which employs about 1,700 people, has just been modernized and extended at a cost of £2.5m, primarily to meet the orders from Turkey.

This year it had been hoped to send 2,500 tractors at £4,000 each, and 4,000 sets of com*ponents for assembly* there but the company has been told that the Turkish central bank has run out of foreign currency.

Oil could flow for many years

From Mr J. Barnea

Sir, I would like to comment on the exchange of letters between Peter R. Odell and K. R. Williams on assessing future oil resources, which appeared in your distinguished paper on October 24 and 27, 1977, respectively, and which were just brought to my attention.

Both letters refer to the Conference on the Future Supply of Nature-Made Petroleum and Gas, which was organized by IIASA jointly with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

Mr Williams stated *inter alia* that the conference "produced very high figures of the world oil resources based on the assumption that all oil that has formed will be ultimately exploitable." This statement is incorrect. Nowhere in any of the many technical papers presented to the conference or in any reports or summaries prepared by the sponsors on the conference was it stated or assumed that for any type of oil and gas, all of the oil or gas-in-place would be produced. The *highest* estimate given at the conference for future recovery of oil-in-place was 70 per cent, and most estimates of ultimate production were lower.

Mr Williams seems not to *have appreciated that the pur*pose of the conference was to get away from previous narrow definitions of petroleum reserves and to look at the future oil and gas supply. Most figures of petroleum reserves, including those cited by your two correspondents, are restricted to liquid oil that is exploitable through primary production; while such figures may be useful as a guide to past oil production and exploration, they should not be used as the main basis for estimating what will be economically and technically feasible in the future. The history of resource development, including oil, has *shown that resources* are a function of technology and economics.

The conference thus directed its attention to the many (some of them not yet exploited) petroleum resource zones and to the many types of natural gas which could be produced in the future, dealing *inter alia* with 12 types of gas, including geopressured gas which is known to exist also in many parts of Europe and the North Sea.

The recent report that the Shell company has decided to invest $3.500m-$4.000m in the extraction of oil from the Athabasca tar sands deposit in Alberta, Canada, is a demonstration of the view which we think is relevant in considering *future oil and gas supplies.* (This example also may indicate that Mr Williams's letter may represent his view on the future supply of oil and gas but not that of his own *company.*)

The implications of the large-scale development of the Athabasca tar sands stem from the fact that oil from tar sands, shales and many heavy crudes *are not included in* reserve estimates; as development proceeds, the extent of the exploitable oil available in these resources will become better known; in addition, recovery techniques will become more efficient and thorough as experience in developing these resources is gained.

A major aim of the UNITAR/IIASA conference is attempting to correct the limited view of petroleum reserves so often taken as the basis for the simple projection of petroleum supplies, was to point out that these projections are misleading and can be dangerous if they lead to hastily conceived and costly energy development programmes.

We possess today an elaborate infrastructure based on petroleum *and natural gas*; we should not abandon it, and commit ourselves to the enormous investments alternative sources will entail, under pressure of doomsday analyses based on misinformed figures. The resources of the earth are vast and still unknown in many areas, and this applies to the many types of oil and gas resources discussed at the conference. The application of human imagination and ingenuity to their exploitation can provide us with oil, gas and other energy resources for many years to come.

JOSEPH BARNEA,
Special fellow, United Nations Institute for Training and Research,
801 United Nations Plaza,
New York.
January 19.

Share ownership and pension schemes serve separate purposes

From Mr G. Copeman

Sir, Mr Brian Cole's letter (January 31) reveals him as a Doubting Thomas about the merits of independent enterprise and a free capital market. In throwing cold water on the Metzger and Colletti study, he makes a surprising statement in *relation to retirement schemes* and their effect on company results: "There is no reason to believe their results would have been any worse if this package had included a United Kingdom type pension scheme instead of a worker share scheme."

Where is Mr Cole's evidence? Has he done a statistical study even as large as Metzger? His statement is shattering if unsupported, for it implies that the effects of direct share ownership are the same as the effects of a pension scheme, *even though these are different* social institutions. It is rather like saying that the effects of a dog in the house are the same as the effects of a cat.

Moreover, Mr Cole's statement logically implies that industry would be unaffected if business owners were bought out and had their shares replaced by pension policies and that small shareholders, too, could be "pensioned off" and the Stock Exchange allowed to die, with no ill effects. Personally I believe this is wrong. Share ownership does matter and so do pension schemes. Each serves a separate purpose.

The Metzger study was never quoted in Britain until the Doubting Thomases started asking for statistical evidence that ownership affects attitudes. However, those who believe in independent enterprise do not generally need to ask. They see all around them the sad consequences of trying to operate a top-sided economic democracy in which almost 100 per cent of the adults have votes but only 3.8 per cent own shares.

Fortunately an increasing number of companies are trying to improve on this situation. For example, on January 19 *House of Fraser Limited* introduced an employee share scheme and it received a favourable shareholder vote of 40 million to five million.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE COPEMAN,
Deputy Chairman,
Jaxon House.
Wider Share Ownership Council,
94 St Paul's Churchyard,
London, EC4M.

Long wait for highly-advertised products

From Mr George Norman

Sir, It may be the case, as Mr Brunswick alleges (February 1), that multiple stores only want to sell what they have in stock, but this does not explain why *many highly advertised* proprietary goods are not immediately available from the manufacturers' agents.

I have been trying to obtain a well-known make of vanity unit which is widely advertised in glossy magazines, and everywhere I was told that there must be a five or six-week wait, due to the length of the production run, whatever that means. Finally I decided to have a carpenter make up a unit, but after trying six dealers I found that the bowl, too, was unobtainable from stock, and waiting time varied from two to 12 weeks. If this is the way supplies are organized, I am not surprised that the building industry is in the doldrums.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE NORMAN,
9 Onslow Way,
Pyrford, Woking,
Surrey.
February 1.

KILLINGHALL (RUBBER) DEVELOPMENT SYNDICATE

Mr. Addinsell's Statement

The sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of Killinghall (Rubber) Development Syndicate, Limited, was held on February 6th in London, Mr. J. Addinsell, the Chairman, presiding.

At £293,204, the pre-tax profit for the year ended 30th June 1977 included record contributions from tin tribute and investment income, and compares with £137,380 for 1975/76. The increase in tin tribute received was due both to higher production of tin ore by the tin company and a higher average price for tin metal.

Taxation in Malaysia and the U.K. requires £123,388. An interim dividend of 1.38p per share was paid in July last and, the company having been released by H.M. Treasury from dividend control, we are recommending a final dividend of 10.17p per share, making a total of 11.55p per share for the year.

Prospects for the current financial year naturally depend on the level of tin tribute, our largest source of income. Receipts to date are in advance of those for the same period of last year and although our rubber and investment interests may not repeat last year's record contributions, 1977/78 should show very satisfactory results.

The report was adopted.

Agents and Secretaries: Harrisons & Crosfield, Limited

WHOLESALE PRICES

The following are the indices (1970=100) of wholesale prices of manufactured goods and the basic *materials and fuels* purchased by manufacturing industry released by the Department of Industry yesterday. The figures exclude purchase tax but include revenue duties.

	Output prices (home sales) (1)	Prices of materials and fuels (2)	% change at previous 6 months at annual rate in (1)	in (2)
1976				
Dec	237.2	330.2	19.5	21.5
1977				
Jan	244.9	337.8	24.1	25.1
Feb	243.2	339.5	23.4	24.7
March	250.8	347.2	22.8	22.0
April	255.4	349.7	33.3	13.9
May	259.2	348.3	22.5	13.1
June	262.4	345.2	22.4	−9.3
July	255.8	344.5	17.8	4.1
Aug	268.1	338.8	16.7	−6.4
Sept	270.2	336.1	15.2	−5.2
Oct	271.0	333.2	12.6	−6.9
Nov r	272.0	328.9	9.6	−10.3
Dec p	273.3	332.7r	6.5	−9.3
1978				
Jan p	276.2	336.4	0.5	−10.2

r revised
p provisional

Fewer starts but more homes ready last year

During 1977, 132,300 homes were started in the public sector, a fall of 38,600 on 1976. With 133,900 starts for private owners, 20,800 fewer than in the previous year, the total for the two sectors in 1977 was 266,200 compared with 325,600 in 1976.

Last year 302,200 homes were completed compared with 315,200 in 1976. In the public sector, completions were 162,500 or 500 lower than the previous year, and in private sector 139,700, a decrease of 12,500.

Upturn forecast: The construction industry may have "turned the corner" after four years.

Based on 600 replies from firms of all types and sizes, the *survey shows that for the first* time since 1973 the number of firms reporting fewer inquiries than in the previous quarter does not outnumber those reporting more inquiries.

Argyll floating platform shut down for repairs

By Roger Vielvoye
Energy Correspondent

The only floating oil production platform in the North Sea *is to be towed to the Firth of* Forth from the Argyll field for repairs after the discovery of damage to its buoyancy tanks below the waterline.

Hamilton Brothers, operators for the field, said the converted drilling rig, Transworld 58, had developed "some minor structural problems" and would be closed down for four to six *weeks for repairs in sheltered* waters.

A spokesman said the platform had not been involved in any accidents or collisions and that the problems were consistent with normal wear and tear.

Production, averaging around 20,000 barrels a day, stopped on Saturday, and the wells are being disconnected from the platform. It will be towed to Methil, and inspection and repairs are to begin by the weekend.

The damage appeared after a series of gales throughout January. The temporary loss of the Argyll platform will have only a marginal effect, but combined with the difficulties the weather has caused to other fields that load oil directly into tankers, it could depress total offshore output below the 800,000 barrel a day mark for a short period.

It is not the first setback Hamilton Brothers has encountered with the field, which lies in the southerly part of the oil-producing area about 220 miles east of Dundee. Water has encroached into the wells and has forced the group to reassess the recoverable reserves at 10 to 12 million barrels fewer than the original estimate of 35 million.

صورة من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

EDITOR

ity Paying
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The right course for Leyland's minority to take

Leslie Murphy, chairman of the
al Enterprise Board, has now con-
that the next cash injection into
Leyland will be equity rather than
ans envisaged under the Ryder plan.
eems sensible, but it serves to high-
he increasingly embarassing presence
100,000 minority shareholders holding
per cent of the equity.
injection of £400m has been sug-
Half as much should bring debt and
back into a rough balance, but even
nount would reduce the minority to
where the shares would be a mean-
proportion of the whole, with no
due. Sir Leslie said yesterday that
ority would be given an opportunity
in new money, but it can hardly be
while for them to do so.
ner injections of equity may be
in subsequent years, so it would be
ss for the Government to land itself
ie possibility of launching a stream
ts issues.
e should be a facility bid at near
rent market price of 27p to the out-
g shareholders, who for reasons of
or sentimentality failed to accept
p equivalent offer two years ago at
ne time as the initial £200m rights
nd for it to be left open until such
as the remainder could be acquired
sorily.
rs of the £27m of convertible stock,
t the same time, be offered an extra
cent coupon, to bring it to 7½ per
return for losing their conversion
Sir Leslie yesterday was careful not
out the possibility of an offer.
holders should now be given that
chance. Any vague thoughts any
inority may have of receiving pink
it a possible flotation of the special
s' division can be forgotten. There
plans for it to happen; only those
ng to ensure the survival of British
l.

lending

ortions in attern

urkets, obsessed as ever by where
ney supply is headed, have been
increasingly jittery about the bank-
res which are due to be published
w morning. There has been a dis-
ding in the earlier optimism that
ks" eligible liabilities—essentially
erling deposits and therefore the
t factor in money supply—could
ignificant fall in the January bank-
h.
as premised on big sales of gilts
on-bank public of some £800m, a
overnment financial surplus and
l low demand for bank loans.
orries, latterly, have centred on
this happy prospect might be upset.
ice by some bulkier than expected
nents working through to bank
g. Some bankers report a switch in
away from the money markets to
s which would also be reflected in
iabilities.
ether or not today's figures are
ting to financial markets, the
e uniformly agreed that, notwith-
December's revival in the retail
derlying lending demand remains
ever.
ing though that may be to mone-
owever, the short-term outlook for
pply is far from encouraging. The
for the February banking month
part from yesterday's £320m call
tly-paid Treasury stock, precious
at all look like being sold.
January month does nothing more
money supply growth barely back
9-13 per cent target band it will
ogressively more difficult to meet
in the remaining months of the
ear without raising interest rates
to get the gilt-edged bandwagon
in.

witnessed the attempted rape of
by Rothschild Investment Trust
od Russel, Harrisons & Crosfield
ally continued to build up the
around its most prized asset,
Malaysian Estates (the reincarna-
"Three Sisters").

It has increased its direct stake by the purchase of a further 400,000 shares to 17.1 per cent which is taken up to around 29½ per cent when associates are included. (Sogomana, in which group interests have 41.6 per cent, with HME holding the biggest slice at 28.1 per cent, has a further 1.4 per cent of HME, but has not been classed as acting in concert.)

Two of the associates—Harcross Investment Trust with 4.5 per cent and Malayalam with 2.8 per cent—are in the process of becoming H&C subsidiaries following the group's successful bids for them. But of the grand total of 29½ per cent, nearly 3 per cent is held by London Sumatra, for which McLeod, RIT and Sipef are bidding 110p cash. Neither LS nor H&C have made a positive move on the bid, presumably waiting for the offer document which should be out either at the end of this week or the beginning of next.

Mystery surrounds the delay of the effective transfer of domicile to Malaysia of the HME operations via a mirror company, which will still enable H&C to maintain control from London. But whatever the outcome, H&C is no doubt conscious that Kien Huat Realty, which acted in concert with Genting Highlands last year in the abortive battle for Golden Hope, holds 12 per cent of HME. Having been taken unawares by the bid for Malayalum, H&C is taking care with HME.

British Sugar

Still investing heavily

British Sugar Corporation is able to take this year's likely cash shortfall on its balance sheet without any traumas. Gearing at under 11 per cent and cash-flow this year of around £30m would be just £5m short of the amount of capital spending planned, a deficit that would push gearing up to only 15 per cent.

This may allay fears that the company might come back to the market with another cash call to follow up its £18m rights issue in July. However, the fact that it should be a problem at all is a reflection of the way the company has had to deal with some unforeseeable contingencies since the spending programme was planned.

This year the crop of 950,000 tonnes should, with some outside buying, push total sales over the 1m tonnes mark without recourse to imports. Not long ago this would have been taken as a sure pointer to pretax profits of £30m but the delay in the Green Pound's devaluation and the problems of holding prices to retailers in the midst of the pitched battle in the High Streets have



Sir Gerald Thorley, chairman of British Sugar Corporation.

conspired to pull the likely profits outcome down to around £25m against last year's £20.5m.

If the Green Pound is devalued by 7.5 per cent on July 1 this will only help the final quarter this year and the retailers show no immediate sign of ending hostilities. However, BSC is well on its way to pushing its *sown acreage up by 5 per cent this year so, assuming a reasonable crop, the longer* term prospects look brighter for the capital spending programme and thus the balance sheet.

The shares at 440p, down 5p yesterday, are on a fully-taxed p/e ratio of 6.7 and a yield of 6.5 per cent, not a generous rating particularly on medium term prospects. BSC's yield, even under current cost accounting, is still well-covered.

Eric Wigham on moves to improve the International Labour Organization's effectiveness

Can the ILO adjust to hard times?

The future of the International Labour Organization, the one worldwide body in which employers' and workers' representatives sit alongside those of governments, may be decided at a series of meetings over the next few months.

On Monday next a working party will discuss proposals to change the ILO constitution. A fortnight later the governing body, the executive board of the organization, will consider emergency financial measures.

In June the annual International Labour Conference in Geneva will assemble for the first time since the United States left it, and the attitude of the various groups there will give some indication whether it is possible for Third World and industrialized countries to continue to work together for the benefit of workers everywhere.

There was a time between the wars when the organization was largely centred on western Europe. Later came the entry of the Communist countries, using it as a vehicle for political propaganda.

Finally, as more and more colonies achieved independence, the number of Third World members grew until, through the Group of 77, claiming to represent 114 countries, they have become able, when they act together, to exercise majority control over the conference and more often than not over the governing body.

The overriding question is how they will use the power their numbers give them. The ILO was built on western beliefs in democratic liberties, freedom of association and international improvements in working conditions through agreement on minimum standards.

The developing countries are more concerned with the right to have enough to eat, and a large proportion of the organization's effort is now devoted to technical aid and assistance.

To what extent will the Group of 77 and the Communist block be willing to make concessions to the industrial countries who even without the United States provide a substantial part of the funds on which the ILO depends?

The conflict was brought to a head last November when the United States withdrew from the organization, depriving it of about $22.5m, or roughly a quarter of its contribution income. Britain and other industrial countries, though supporting many of the United States critics, remained inside with the support not only of trade unions but of employers who regard it as of value to industry to have an international forum where they can express their views directly to governments.

Both the TUC and the CBI would like to see increased use of the ILO's committees for separate industries at the meetings of which the approach is usually down to earth, and politics rarely raises its ugly head.

The four main issues to be resolved are the immediate financial difficulties, the composition of the governing body, the procedure for dealing with resolutions and the policing of the observance of conventions.

The financial problem seems pretty well settled for this year. A reduction in staff of 250 out of 2,800 and other economies, for instance in conferences and publications, will deal with 21.7 per cent of the 25 per cent of its income lost by American withdrawal. An appeal for voluntary contributions to meet the remaining 3.3 per cent is going well.

There are other budget losses. Because all contributions are paid in dollars but most expenditure is in Swiss francs, the recent fall in the exchange rate of the dollar is costing the ILO another $14m being met by various adjustments.

There is also China, whose budget contribution was fixed at about $4½m. But China, though technically a member since it replaced Taiwan in the United Nations, has never taken any part in the work of the ILO or paid it anything, and recently informed M Francis Blanchard, the ILO director general, that it intends to continue that way. But that was allowed for.

The most immediately controversial question is the composition of the governing body.

> Western policy is influenced by hopes of an eventual US return

At present it consists of 28 government, 14 employer and 14 worker delegates.

All are elected by their groups except that 10 government seats are set aside for members "of chief industrial importance,". In addition, 14 deputy members from other countries are chosen by each group with the right to be present at meetings and to speak but not normally to vote.

The justification for permanent representation of countries of chief industrial importance is that they provide a high proportion of the organization's funds, but the Group of 77 have always considered it undemocratic.

An Asian resolution two years ago proposed their abolition and the selection of members on a regional basis and since then numerous amendments and alternative suggestions, some of which have advocated rotating membership and some that deputy members should be made full members, have been submitted to the working party.

Determined opposition by the United States prevented any decision so long as they were members, but European governments have recently come to the conclusion that some concession is inevitable and have worked out a scheme which would give the developing countries most of what they want but make it unlikely that the larger EEC countries would lose their seats. The body would be enlarged and the system of deputy members abandoned.

This provides for electoral colleges based on the four main continents. The number of members from each electoral college would depend on a formula taking into account both population and industrial importance. Last week their plan was put to market economy industrial countries outside the EEC and accepted in principle.

The United Kingdom, under pressure from the TUC, is insisting, however, that these proposals should be regarded as part of a package dependent on agreements on political resolutions and effective use of the machinery for ensuring so far as possible, that ratified conventions are observed.

This would mean acceptance of a proposal along the lines of one put forward by the United States last year, that resolutions condemning member states should now be receivable if they concern matters not covered by ILO standards, or prior to inquiry under ILO procedures if they concern matters covered by ILO standards.

The problem of observance of conventions arises from the fact that twice in the past four years the report of the Committee on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, which has been described as "the conscience of the ILO", was not adopted because, as a result of abstentions by members of the Group of 77, Communist countries and others, there was no quorum. While their action was claimed to be for tactical reasons, it was noted that many of those abstaining were countries cited as not having applied conventions they had ratified.

The policy of the western industrial countries is influenced all the time by the desire to avoid anything which would prevent the eventual return of the United States. Their absence means much more than loss of funds or of a vote on the governing body. They were energetic members of the employers' and workers' as well as the government groups and could exercise a powerful influence on many smaller countries.

Moreover, their defection has left Russia substantially the largest contributor to ILO funds, with nearly $10m this year, thus strengthening her frequent claim to be the best friend of the workers of the world. The suggested changes in the governing body would certainly not please the United States, but if on the other hand, the questions of political resolutions and the monitoring of conventions could be settled, that would be a step forward.

The ILO is sometimes described as "a talking shop", and it is true that its good works tend to be obscured by jingles of written and spoken words. But the good works are there for those who get near enough to see. It would be a pity to allow it to collapse.

Frank Vogl

Mr Carter wins a measure of approval from US business

A fundamental change in attitude is developing on the part of American business leaders towards President Carter. The deep mistrust of the President is now gradually giving way to a more balanced and reasonable view.

If this change can filter down from the chairmen of the nation's largest companies to the wider business community, then its impact on the economy could be formidable.

The change in attitude points to strengthening private sector investment, which should spur gains in real growth and employment and heightened confidence in American financial markets.

This change in view results from an enhanced understanding by business leaders of today's political realities and of the pressures that the President daily confronts. This in turn is the product of increased attempts by the President to talk directly to business leaders and listen to their ideas.

The President said all the things that Democratic politicians seeking office tend to say in election campaigns, and of course these statements did not endear Mr Carter to the business community.

He not only seemed willing to toy with wage and price controls and to threaten the independence of the Federal Reserve Board, but he seemed willing massively to increase public spending.

The negligible efforts made by the President in the first half of 1977 to develop good contacts with business leaders served only to strengthen their fears.

In the summer the President recognized that his success in office might heavily depend on increasing business confidence. His Cabinet officers started to develop contacts with business groups and he became more responsive to business demands.

The turning point in the President's relationship with United States business leaders probably came a few weeks ago at a meeting in his oval office.

The President directly briefed nine of the leaders of the American Business Roundtable—an organization representing about 140 of the largest corporations—on the outlines of his budget and new economic policies.

The meeting, according to both business participants and administration officials, was relaxed and productive.

The chairman of one of the nation's biggest manufacturers noted privately the other night that few businessmen fully appreciated the immense pressures placed on the President by liberal and trade union groups.

He noted that when these pressures were objectively recognized, then it could be seen that in numerous areas the President had gone as far in meeting the business community's demands as he dare go.

It is the appreciation of those pressures and the belief that the President has been influenced by the views of businessmen in recent weeks that

> White House meeting between President and business leaders marked turning point

resulted in the business roundtable recently declaring that it supported most of the President's new programmes.

That statement came as a surprise, and clashed with the strong attacks on the Administration being made these days on Wall Street.

Members of the round-table argue that people on Wall Street fail to appreciate the pressures on the President, while also being so depressed these days as to be negative about almost every new idea.

They are depressed, it is suggested, not because of the economy's general trend or the new White House policies, but because of problems in their own backyard—problems resulting from increased competition and from plans to restructure the securities industry.

Moreover, quite a few business leaders attribute the continuing nervousness on Wall Street to the uncertainties that surround the dollar's exchange rate.

Businessmen seem to agree with the President that the solution on this matter now rests most particularly with the Congress and its willingness swiftly to enact energy legislation.

The shift in attitudes by such business leaders as Mr Reginald Jones of General Electric, Mr Walter Wriston of Citicorp, and Mr Thomas Murphy of General Motors, do not merely reflect improved contacts with the President, but also some solid victories by the business community over the trade unions and liberal pressure groups in determining Administration decisions.

The President's appointment of a highly respected businessman, Mr William Miller, to be the next head of the Federal Reserve Board, is one such victory.

Another is the President's decision to propose business tax cuts, despite fierce trade union opposition. Then, again in the face of stern trade union pressure, the President has so far staunchly resisted a move toward general trade protectionism.

Business leaders are themselves divided on the trade question, with the steel industry chiefs, for example, in the forefront of the campaign for tough new trade barriers.

However, most of the heads of the largest corporations are urging the Administration to stand firm against the protectionists, and the President's resolve, despite his adoption of an unpopular reference price system for steel, is widely applauded.

There are several areas, however, where the leaders of the biggest companies, who have enjoyed some access to the President recently, admit that they have genuine problems in persuading other businessmen to put more trust in the Administration.

The most prominent of these areas are the Federal budget, labour law reform legislation and the new White House anti-inflation programme.

For many businessmen the announcement of a budget with a $60,600m deficit is seen solely as a recipe for further

> Deep distrust of 1977 appears to be diminishing

high inflation. Men like Mr Reginald Jones, however, believe this is an unfair assessment.

They note there is still much slack in the economy and that, given the tremendous public spending demands of the trade unions, the black American groups and leaders of financially ailing cities, the President has done quite a remarkable job in holding public spending increases to a level of less than 2 per cent in real terms.

On labour law reform the business leaders state that there are quite a few points that they oppose, such as the increased powers given to shop stewards and the reduced rights of companies to oppose union organizing drives.

However, these businessmen flatly admit that it would be a crazy world if a Democratic President were to side with business against the unions on every issue, and one loss for business should not be viewed as a cause for outright hostility towards the White House.

On the anti-inflation programme the businessmen state that they have had categorical promises from the Administration that the current approach is not a forerunner to controls; that it is not going to be used as a means by the Administration to win cheap publicity, as was done by President Johnson, and that all negotiations between business, labour and government will be quiet and without "the glare of publicity".

Moreover, the businessmen assert they have promises from the President that he will set an example by being tough in negotiations on Civil Service pay rises and that he will be more active in reducing government regulations which add to business operating costs.

The business leaders, however, would like Mr Michael Blumenthal, the Treasury Secretary, to have greater authority in these areas than the President seems willing to give him.

To be sure there are numerous areas where the business leaders would like to see changes in Administration policies. They would like to see greater support for business exporting activities, for tax breaks for high income earners, not just the middle and low income earners, and they would like to see a general cut in public spending on many social welfare programmes.

It would be going too far to suggest that there is a real bond of trust now between the White House and the nation's top corporate executives.

But the deep distrust that so affected business confidence in 1977 appears to be diminishing. Businessmen are gaining the ear of the President and they believe that they are starting to influence Administration policies.

The real question now is whether this change in attitude at the helm of big business can spread to Wall Street and to the wider business community.

"Frankly", said the chairman of one major concern, "my colleagues and I are worried that businessmen generally may think we have been coopted by this Administration and that we may lose our credibility.

"If we continue to get better results from our dealings in Washington, then we'll become more confident and more outspoken—at least we know where the President stands on the issues, what the pressures on him are, and he knows what concerns us, and that is surely a pleasant change."

Business Diary: Man overboard • Jack Jones and after



A swing in the balance of TUC power? Left to right, Geoffrey Drain, Ken Thomas, David Basnett, Alan Fisher and Moss Evans.

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-up and agreed to resign with suitable (undisclosed) compensatory payments.

■ The retirement of Jack Jones next month from the general secretaryship of the Transport and General Workers' Union, the country's biggest, will create a power vacuum in the trade union movement. It is widely assumed that the vacuum will be filled by his successor, Moss Evans, when he inherits the two million vote within the TUC. But it ain't necessarily so.

Power depends on a man and his allies as well as his office and it may be that a formidable rival block is beginning to emerge since David Basnett, general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, recently called for the creation of a public services committee including local government, Civil Service and health service unions.

This is a controversial move because Basnett is this year's chairman of the TUC general council and less than six months ago the council, in a report to the annual congress, threw cold water on the idea.

Basnett's plan was severely criticized by Evans, whose union also has a large number of public service members, but it has the general support of Geoffrey Drain of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, Alan Fisher general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, and Kenneth Thomas general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association.

The GMWU and these three unions have together a membership of 2,500,000.

Much will depend on the first meeting of public service unions to discuss the plan, which will take place at Nalgo on Thursday.

And if they accept the cool, thoughtful leadership of Basnett, he could well become a rival influence to the more traditional, down-to-earth Moss Evans.

■ The destruction by Lady Spencer Churchill of the portrait of Sir Winston by Graham Sutherland brings to mind a similar if somewhat more entertaining episode concerning Lord Leverhulme, founder of the Unilever empire and Augustus John.

In 1920, Lord Leverhulme, who was already an art collector of international repute, decided to have his portrait done by John, then, in the words of Leverhulme's most recent biographer "at the height of his fame if not of his powers".

The artist, who usually didn't like doing portraits, said he was happy with the result. The sitter said the eyes, nose and mouth were not his, whereupon John offered the peer his brushes and palette.

On taking delivery of the painting, Leverhulme cut out the head and face and placed it in his safe. The rest of the portrait he put away in a packing case with a label in his own writing marked "Remainder of a portrait by Augustus John".

Unfortunately or otherwise, the old rogue's housekeeper innocently sent back the packing case to John, who wrote asking for an explanation of "this, the grossest insult I have ever received in the course of my career".

The story leaked out into the papers, and there were demonstrations in London where a headless replica of the peer's torso was exhibited, and in Italy, where there was a 24-hour strike of models, colourmen and frame makers in the painting industry.

After Leverhulme's death his grandson, the present third viscount, found the missing head and face still in the safe. He had it framed and hung at the family home, Thornton Manor. In 1950, the year of John's retrospective exhibition at the Royal Academy, the painter came up with the rest of the canvas and paid for a Dr J. Hell first to patch up and then completely restore head to shoulders.

It was done as Sir Gerald Kelly, then of the RA, said, with "Hellish ingenuity". The complete portrait now hangs at Thornton.

The episode is told with great verve in W. P. Jolly's sprightly biography *Lord Leverhulme* (Constable, 1976).



Headlines: Lord Leverhulme by Augustus John.

VIBROPLANT HOLDINGS LIMITED

Business: Plant Hire Specialists

INTERIM STATEMENT
HALF YEAR TO 30th SEPTEMBER

	1977 £	1976 £
Group Turnover	4,384,262	3,082,627
Unaudited Profit before Taxation	1,226,800	864,959
Corporation Tax 52%	637,936	449,779
Group Profit after Tax	588,864	415,180
Cost of Dividend (after waivers) Net	142,560	128,700

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend of 3·96p per share which together with the Associated Tax Credit is equivalent to 6p per share (1976 5·5p per share). The Dividend is payable to those shareholders on the Register at the 24th February, 1978 and will be paid on the 6th March, 1978.

Registered Office—Prospect Road, Starbeck, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Pay doubts continue to weigh on equities

With the pressures on the Government's pay guidelines continuing to restrain business equities made an undistinguished start to the second week of the account.

Dealers said that at its present level the market looks ripe for a technical rally but with no incentive share prices hovered just below their overnight levels and the FT Index closed 0.6 off at 458.1.

The initial reaction to the latest index of wholesale prices *was one of disappointment*, but the figures were viewed more favourably on second thoughts and by the close were making a positive contribution to the firmer trend prevailing in late dealings.

Oil dealers said that a line of at least 500,000 American held BP shares were sold in the market late on Friday at a new low for the year of 756p. Dealers hope that with this line out of the way last week's reports of possible heavy transatlantic selling can now be forgotten. The shares rose 6p to 766p.

Gilts were again hit by selling from the Continent. Unnerved by the miners and power workers pay claims, foreign investors sold stock all last week and many dealers feel *there could be more to come.*

There were few buyers about. Yesterday's £320m call on Treasury 10¼ per cent 1999 mopped up much of the institutions liquidity and yields on some stocks at the extreme long end of the markets reached 12¼ per cent.

After opening cautiously "longs" could do little to rally support and ended the session on the bottom with falls of up to 1¼ points. "Shorts" faired little better, ending slightly above the worst, with net losses of around seven eighths.

Today's banking figures continued to overhang the market with investors split between "bear" closing before the figures and holding on in the hope of selling on the next rally.

However, unless there is some positive indication from the Chancellor that his giveaway budget tax reductions will come nearer the £1,500m than the £3,000m level, there seems to be little hope of a genuine rally developing.

According to one dealer there has never been so many non-professional investors in the gilt market as there are at present and, at each price fall, more and more are tempted to sell out. *Only the pension funds* and insurance companies, not dependent on short-term cash, are net buyers.

Arthur Guinness has its annual meeting on Thursday. By then most of the half year to March will be over. Trade has probably gone reasonably, what with dearer stout in the Republic of Ireland and good going elsewhere abroad. If the chairman says as much at the meeting the shares at 178p will start to look attractive against other brewery counters. Around two thirds of business is outside the United Kingdom, which is more than can be said for other brewers.

In spite of the performance of the index some isolated firm spots were to be found among the industrial leaders.

The best included 5p gains from Glaxo at 562p and Beecham at 622p. BAT Ind continued to benefit from its recent figures holding on to a gain of 3p to 285p while Imperial *Group eased a penny to 75p in* front of figures. But some adverse comment over the weekend hit Reed International which lost 4p to 119p.

A warning from Harris Lebus on the effects of stiff competition on profits lowered the shares 8p to 57p and took its toll of other furniture issues. Yarrow dipped to 265p before closing at an unchanged 270p on disappointment with the interim compensation terms.

Motor issues had an active session, notably British Leyland which swung between extremes of 29p and 24p before settling at an unchanged 27p on the reorganization proposals. Distributor Alexanders failed to benefit from figures at an unchanged 17p and others in the sector to react from recent strength were ERF down 2p to 161p and TC Harrison off 9p to 100p as profits were taken.

The broker's circular mentioned here last week brought some isolated firm spots in properties. These included tuppenny rises from Lynton Holdings at 127p, Great Portland at 308p and Property Security at 308p. Others edging ahead were Land Securities at 212p and Haslemere at 234p.

Talk of W. H. Smith making a bid for Status Discount appears to be loosing credence. Although the book stores to craft kits group is interested in moving into the home improvements market it seems unlikely that they will attempt an entry through a group with around 70 per cent of the equity in director or trust hands. Status were unchanged at 124p yesterday.

News of an approach from an unidentified source lifted Hamilbourne 2p to 42p, fading hopes of a takeover move left Farnell 6p lower at 194p and Wilkinson Match reacted 7p to 179p on further criticism of the Allegheny deal.

After last week's TV rental deal between Rediffusion and House of Fraser dealers were *speculating that* Comet Radio's terms for Henry Wigfall could well be raised and the latter's shares gained 6p to 266p.

Equity turnover on February 3 was £67.12m (12,350 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were BAT Dfd, ICI, Reed International, BP, BAT Ind, BSG International, British Leyland, Grand Metropolitan, Shell, John Brown, GEC, Burmah Oil, Cooper Industries, Gus "A", *Anglo American, Coral Leisure*, Ladbroke, Wilkinson Match, Sekers and Wilson Brothers.

Latest results

Company	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Int or Fin						
Alexndrs Hdgs (F)	23.56(19.40)	0.27(0.01a)	0.76(—)	Nil(Nil)	—	Nil(Nil)
Cont & Ind Tst (I)	—(—)	0.90(0.80)	—(—)	2.25(2.0)	7/2	—(—)
Malaysia Rbr (I)	—(—)	0.03(0.01)	1.10(0.45)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Comalco (F)	—(—)	61.1(37.8)	—(—)	7.5(—)	4/5	12.5(8.0)
Ellis & Evrd (I)	21.06(18.6)	0.62(0.57)	3.20(3.06)	2.0(2.0)	20/3	—(—)
A. Miller (F)	—(—)	0.09(0.09)	11.28(9.88)	3.73(3.57)	—	3.73(3.57)
UC Investmts (F)	—(—)	7.2b(6.3b)	37.1(32.4)	20(20)	—	30(30)
Vibroplant (I)	4.38(3.08)	1.22(0.86)	—(—)	3.96(—)	6/3	—(—)

Dividens in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Loss. b Rand and cents. c Dollars and cents.

Hamilborne in talks with unnamed bidder

By Victor Felstead

The directors of Leicestershire-based Hamilborne, an investment holding company, which owns a brick-making firm, disclosed yesterday that it is in talks which may lead to an offer for Hamilborne.

One of the conditions being discussed is that the offeror—who has not been named—receives acceptances of at least 51 per cent of the capital and that the intimated offer price would be about 48p a share, valuing Hamilborne at about £752,000.

Hamilborne's shares gained 2p to 42p on the news. A further announcement on the talks will be made as soon as possible by the company, but Mr E. D. Barkway, chairman, denied reports yesterday that his company, Energy, Finance & General Trust, which he controls personally, is involved in the talks.

In fact, most of the company's capital is held by only a few shareholders. Mr Barkway has about 12 per cent through his own personal holding; the other directors, between them, have about 6 per cent.

The Moorside Trust has almost 11 per cent and Bonas Webb, which had control of the company up until September, 1975, owns 23 per cent. Mr G. C. Warling, a private individual, has a 12.5 per cent stake.

Meanwhile, the way ahead for the potential bidders is strewn with pitfalls.

Scrip as strong final stage pushes Alexanders to peak

By Tony May

The strong recovery of Alexanders Holdings, Ford main dealer, has brought the group a record result for the year to *September* 30. There is still no dividend for shareholders but the board is proposing a *one-for-five* scrip issue on the ordinary or "A" shares.

Turnover of the group, which is the largest Ford dealer in Scotland, jumped £4m to £23.5m while pre-tax profits leapt from £64,000 to £301,000. Most of this was produced in the second half when £255,000 was brought in, compared with £119,000 in the same half last year, when a return to profits *was achieved.*

The results are in line with the statement of Mr J. Loudon, the chairman at halftime that despite the "moderate results" for the period—a loss of £55,000 was turned into a profit of £47,000—*the outlook* appeared to be very good.

Looking back over the year *overall, Mr Loudon says that* the three Scottish dealerships went from strength to strength. The agricultural division has also made an encouraging start in its new premises, while the contract hire division continues to expand and supplies many leading national companies.

Elsewhere the Northampton dealership is now trading at a profit and the Huddersfield premises—the old Chrysler dealership—has been sold for much more than book value.

Looking ahead, Mr Loudon says that the current year has started well with both turnover and profit moving ahead of the same period last year.

Airco puts its price at $50 to $55

Airco Inc has been advised by Dillon Read, an investment bank, that a fair price for "a purchase of all the outstanding Airco shares" would be $50 to $55 a share. Earlier, in rejecting BOC International's request to make a $43-a-share bid for all the Airco shares *BOC does not already own*, Airco had called the price "grossly inadequate".

Airco said that it had been advised that its shares were worth substantially more than $43 a share, but it had not been more specific. *The figure of $50* to $55 a share was disclosed in court papers and in a letter prepared by Airco for mailing to shareholders.

Airco also said in the letter that it expects all its shares to be purchased "by some other company—whether BOC or a third party".

"The overriding responsibility of the Airco board is to secure the highest price for Airco shareholders, and we shall do our utmost to assist the board to discharge this responsibility" Airco's top *officers said.*—AP-DJ.

THARSIS SULPHUR

Interim dividend of 4p (nil). Capital increased by three-for-10 scrip last September. Relative government permissions in Spain and United Kingdom have been obtained for this payment which replaces dividend of 5p which board announced its intention to declare on capital before scrip issue.

Vibroplant flying high in 42pc jump

By Michael Clark

Expectations of more growth in the current year at Vibroplant are being borne out with pre-tax profits for the opening half to September 30 up 42 per cent from £865,000 to £1.22m.

Turnover of the North Yorkshire-based plant hire group rose by £1.3m to £4.38m. The directors declare an interim dividend lifted from 5.5p to 6p gross.

Back in August Mr Geoffrey Pilkington, chairman, said that with profits for the first few months of the current year continuing satisfactory, the board considered that growth would continue and profits would show a further rise.

Results of the group for the preceding year to March 31 1977, showed pre-tax profit up from £1.75m to £1.85m, with turnover up by £1.06m to £6.77m. There was also a net decrease in liquid funds of £743,000 compared with £428,000.

The chairman added in his statement that the new depot at Grimsby, which was opened last June, was now fully operational and making a useful contribution to group profitability.

Vibroplant had also decided to maintain its presence at Killingholme and, with expansion in mind, had moved the depot to a freehold site which the company bought some years ago for this purpose.

In a bearish market its shares remained firm yesterday at 160p.

Toray and Toyoba plan closures

Toray Industries and Toyobo are considering plans to scrap some nylon filament yarn mills to cope with the prolonged recession in the textile industry, but the firms have not worked out specific plans on how many *mills will be scrapped. At present*, six Japanese firms manufacture nylon filament with a *combined daily production capacity* of 999 tonnes. However, their operation is 20 per cent *to 30 per cent below capacity*, Toray says.

Toray is the largest Japanese synthetic fibre producer with a daily capacity of 310 tonnes, while Toyobo has daily capacity of 90 tonnes.

Toray gives a warning that its results for the year to March 31 will show a loss.—Reuter.

International

Karstadt dip

Karstadt AG, of West Germany, Europe's largest department store chain, says that its profits for 1977 were lower than the previous year's DM125m (about £29.7m). The company did not release any profit figures, nor would it say if it planned to make any change in the DM10 per DM50 nominal share dividend it paid in 1976. Karstadt had previously reported that turnover rose by 6 per cent in 1977 to DM8,400m from DM7,900m in 1976.

The company blames its initial losses on stagnating business activity after the absorption of Neckermann Stores, and expansion of floor space.

Steel dividend cut

United States Steel Corporation said in Pittsburgh yesterday that the directors had reduced the quarterly dividend to 40 cents a share from 55 cents, payable on March 10, on record February 10. The company said the dividend cut was "prudent in light of current circumstances and was related primarily to the low level of earnings for 1977". Fourth quarter earnings were 11 cents a share, compared with 98 cents a share the year before.

Pontin's sights full-time £7.3m

In response to the agreed cash-and-paper offer from Coral Leisure Group, Pontin's has confirmed its forecast of profits of £7.3m in the year to end-March next against £6.63m. Coral expects to have made £18m pre-tax last year but, as its shares dropped a further 3p yesterday to 112p, each Pontin's share is valued at 40.2p for a prospective take-out p/e of 14.1.

To reduce the costs of the merger, it is proposed to make a capitalization issue on the basis of one new Pontin's share for every existing share and to convert the existing shares into 5 per cent non-cumulative *preference shares of 10p each.*

To ensure an orderly management transition, Sir Fred Pontin will fulfil the dual role of chairman and managing director of the holiday camp group for another year when a new managing director will be appointed.

Briefly

SEARS INTERNATIONAL FIN

As a result of success of offering £15m, 10¼ per cent sterling foreign currency bond, 1988, the issue timetable has been accelerated. Market has been asked to place applications by February 7. Bonds will carry coupon of 10¼ per cent and will be issued at par.

LETRASET

Group has bought all assets of Garfin Art & Drafting for about SA485,000.

OLIVER RIX

To carry out a planned expansion of group in order to achieve acceptable future dividend policy, group may have to take steps to strengthen its executive management.

THOS W. WARD SALE

Wombwell Foundry and Engineering has agreed in principle to buy Sprotborough Castings subsidiary of Thos W. Ward for about £600,000.

NAT BANK OF GEORGIA

Bank, formerly headed by Mr Bert Lance, ex-US Budget Director, states it expects to achieve profits this year. Bank reported loss of $1.74 a share for 1977.

UNITED SPRING

First quarter has shown encouraging increase over same period last year.

BURCO DEAN

Chairman says in annual report that there has been no marked upswing in consumer spending but group expects steady progress. It is already ahead in first quarter.

Exchange losses check Comalco in 54pc rise

Comalco, the bauxite and aluminium producer, increased net attributable profits by 54 per cent to A$40.2m (about £23.6m) from A$26.2m in the year to end-December. The final dividend is lifted to 7.5 cents a share, to make a total of 12.5 cents compared with 8 cents in 1976.

But for exchange losses of $3.69m, net profits would have been up by 64 per cent and the second-half would have shown a useful increase on the first six months.

Bauxite production for the *first time exceeded 10m tonnes* last year and shipments rose by 4 per cent to 9.4m tonnes.

Nordic Bank takes off in surge to £2.2m

Nordic Bank, the London-based consortium bank, achieved dramatic growth in both its capital and its total assets last year and more than doubled pre-tax profits from £910,000 to £2.2m.

Thanks mainly to the advent of a new shareholder, Copenhagen Handelsbank, and the raising of a new dollar subordinated loan, capital resources rose from £18.5m to £31.8m, while the loan portfolio, although under a profit margin squeeze, increased from £205m to £298m. Deposits were up from £297m to £416m.

European Options Exchange members

The European Options Exchange in Amsterdam has approved seven market-makers, 21 floor brokers and 52 public order members.

*Five market-makers are Uni*ted States organizations, Ronald J. Block, Bruce M. Pollock Price & Co, Harrison Propp International and David H. Weelach Inc. The other two are Dutch—Hobijn & Van Vliet and Verkerk & Van Wijw.—Reuter.

London American dips slightly

London American Finance Corporation, now 75 per cent owned by Midland Bank following its takeover last year of the XM Group of international marketing companies, increased turnover from £211m to £233m in the year to end-September but pre-tax profits slipped from £2.36m to £2.19m.

The group has now been renamed London American International Corporation and M. G. W. Taylor, assistant chief general manager of Midland Bank is to replace the retiring Sir Hugh Weeks as chairman. Mr L. V. D. Tindale, deputy chairman of Finance For Industry, which owns the other 2 per cent of LAI, become deputy chairman.

Scottish & Cont Inv considers unitization

The board of Scottish & Continental Investment is considering measures including unitization, for bringing the realisable value of shareholders' funds more into line with the *asset value of the company.* If they cannot come up with a suitable scheme, the director propose that the company be put into liquidation.

Last week's article on SC contained a transmission error.



—Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial—Temporary & Part Time Vacancies—

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(Brompton Arcade is a few steps from Knightsbridge Tube Station, Sloane St. exit)
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THE Recruitment Consultants

COLLEGE LEAVER FOR LEARNED SOCIETY
Interesting and rewarding job for a young well educated Secretary, possibly a graduate, with an interest in the humanities. Good secretarial skills, bright positive personality and the ability to work well with a team of academics. Salary £5,200 neg.
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Recruitment Consultants
No 55, next door to Fenwicks
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BILINGUAL SECRETARY/P.A.
Mature person required to assist female head of marketing to launch new English language course for foreigners. Fluent French essential, plus English shorthand, accurate typing and good organising ability. Starting salary around £3,500. In the first instance call Suzanne Fogden on 01-278 6101 for further details.

SHORTHAND TYPIST/RECEPTIONIST required for Mayfair office of leading finance consultants. Must be enthusiastic and well spoken with pleasant personality, salary negotiable, age 18-30. Telephone: 629 5031.

NO SHORTHAND. Sec. 20+ req. by American Co., Knightsbridge, to provide a P.A. service and assist in running their library. c. £3,500. CLARION STAFF BUREAU, 629 3558.

ENTHUSIASTIC SECRETARY required for active and interesting General Practice. Please write stating previous experience to Dr. Michael Harding 15 Wellington Court, Knightsbridge SW1.
RECEPTIONIST—are you bored with your job.—See Non-Sec. Vacs.

SECRETARIAL

WANT TO DO MORE THAN JUST TYPING?
Educational organisation in N.W.1 needs bright intelligent person, able to type but with potential to become fully involved in organising training courses, conferences and committees.
Good prospects for a career in this administrative field.
Starting salary approx. £5,000 with review July.
LONDON CAREERS
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BACK UP THE OIL RIGS
c £3,500
No shorthand needed in this attractive secretarial job in Hammersmith. You'll set up office almost from scratch. Friendly, informal atmosphere working in a vital field. Intelligence and initiative are important and the job will expand as you gain experience.
LONDON CAREERS
01-794 0202

HELP HANDLE CLIENTS AT UP TO £4,000
Partner at well-known West End professional firm needs a personal Secretary to provide him with a first-class back up service and handle a lot of his client contacts. Important job with a lot of responsibility. Miss Strauss, CHALLONERS, 91 Regent Street, W.1. 734 job with a lot of responsibility. 9176. (Employment Agency).

SENIOR SECRETARY
(£2,989 p.a.-£3,524 p.a. inclusive)
To act as Personal Secretary to the Chairman at the Child Guidance Training Centre, Belsize Lane and undertake other duties including administration of the unit and supervision of clerical and secretarial services. Good shorthand speeds essential. Pleasant working conditions.
Application form and further details available from Mrs. E. Veale, Tel. 435 7111.

OFFER YOUR GERMAN TO BOND STREET EXPORT FIRM
Super, team-type job in pleasant relaxed atmosphere of a Bond Street company concerned with textile exports for a young German speaking Secretary. £3,500. — Ian Smith, CHALLONERS, 19 Broadway, S.W.1. 222 3052 (Employment Agency).

BI-LINGUAL SEC. (German) for M.D. of Bond St. Co., dealing in luxury goods. Some Continental travelling. Curzon Staff Bureau, 629 3558.

SUPER SEC. for young lively W.1 Ad. Agency. Able to take a joke and really good shorthand. Age 22+. Salary up to £3,500. Ring Joanna on 580 6416.

A RESOURCEFUL YOUNG PERSON needed to combine secretarial work, P.A. and some cooking in small, prestigious and growing food company run from house in South Kensington. Languages an asset. £4,000 negotiable. Phone M.D. 370 3693.
PRIVATE SEC. Responsible and involving job. £3,800 + bonus. Bolle Agy., 935 0731.

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY/PA
(Shorthand)
Required for general management of major Japanese ship owning company's modern city office. Age 23 plus. *Good education, resourceful.* Commencing salary £3,000-£3,500 (incremental) plus annual bonus, luncheon vouchers, 3 weeks vacation (4 weeks after 12 months).
Phone Eve Gilham,
01-283 7681
to fix interview

Royal Academy of Music
Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.
SECRETARY TO THE ADMINISTRATOR
Interesting and varied work dealing with all non-musical aspects of the Academy. Secretarial experience and good shorthand/typing speeds essential. own office, electric typewriter. Suitable applicants unlikely to be less than 22, generous holidays and subsidised lunches.
Applications in writing to Mrs Berry.

FASHION CONSCIOUS PA/SECRETARY
for successful Fashion Co. You'll need to be very much on the ball with a highly *organized, efficient mind.* As much responsibility and involvement as you can take—ideal for a career-minded P.A. with a real interest in fashion.
£4,000 p.a.
PATHFINDERS, 629 3132
Personnel Services, 20 Maddox St., W.1 (1 min. Oxford Circus Tube)

FRENCH AN ASSET WITH TOP COSMETIC FIRM
European Manager at the West End H.Q. of a famous international Cosmetic company needs an efficient young Secretary to whom he can delegate wide-ranging responsibilities and who has sufficient conversational French for overseas telephone calls. Neg. at around £3,500. Miss Jones, CHALLONERS, 145 Oxford Street, W.1. 437 3022 (Employment Agency).

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY, without shorthand, 25-32, for Group with interests in Shipping, Transport and Insurance. E.C.4. c. £3,000 n.a. Stella Fisher Bureau, 110 Strand, W.C.2. 836 9644.

GRADUATE FOR PRESS/Publicity Biotech, Encyclopedia research, travel arrangements, £5,000 + for admin. sec. with a h. Covent Garden Bureau, 53 Fleet Street, E.C.4. 353 7696.

AUDIO SECRETARY. £7,000—£8,500 p.a. Friendly and expanding Chartered Surveyors and Estate Agents, close Green Park. 01-499 4646.

SECRETARY, Management Consultant Fleet Str. to £3,420. Bolle Agy., 935 0731.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS. Permanent/temporary positions. AMSA Agency. 01-734 0932.

SECRETARIAL

4½/5 DAY WEEK
Secretary/P.A., 25-35, to assist in running small West End office, part of larger firm of Chartered Surveyors and Property Consultants. Accurate shorthand, audio, occasional simple figure work.
Prestige offices, Cavendish Square, W.1. Close Oxford Circus and leading stores. Friendly atmosphere. Initial salary £3,600, negotiable.
Phone V.J.K., 636 4282, or 580 4949 up till 7 p.m.

JUNIOR SECRETARY
Great opportunity for ambitious male or female college leaver to join dynamic team working in plush Kensington showroom. Varied job involving client contact, press and trade functions. £3,000. L.V.s. Brook Street Bureau 730 9211, Employment Service.

JONATHAN CAPE LTD., Our Production Director needs a P.A. Secretary. Please write or phone John Robinson at 30 Bedford Sq., W.C.1. 636 5764.

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YOUNG SECRETARIES
required by
PORTMAN HOTEL
Two exciting opportunities for people with a minimum of one year's secretarial experience, preferably in Hotels. One for our P.R. office and one for Personnel.
We offer competitive salaries and free meals on and off duty.
Please contact the Personnel Department, The Portman Inter-Continental Hotel, 22 Portman Square, London, W.1. Telephone: 01-486 5844.

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT
No Shorthand — No Audio
Sound Training in all aspects of personnel provided by major West End based Hotel Chain—if you have accurate typing and a genuine interest in people. You'll soon become a key member of lively, happy young team, meeting people, dealing with agencies, placing advertisements and using your initiative and common sense too. Excellent prospects. 5 day L.V.s and salary to £2,800. Please call Carol Lee on 734 0711, PRAXIS PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS, 225 Regent Street, W.1.

CAREER ORIENTATED Junior Secretary required for W.1 Professional Practice. Must be well educated, nice personality and excellent typing. Shorthand not necessary. Promotional prospects to senior partner level for right applicant, c. £3,500 for starters. —Phone Eve at Staff Introductions. 486 6051.

ADVERTISING.—Junior Sec. or college leaver required to assist Account Exec. in P.R. department of major Ad. Agency. Suit applicant with sense of personality. c. £3,000.—Phone Sheila at Staff Introductions. 486 6051.

£3,500. A young secretary to work in the entertainment field, W.1. Good secretarial skills. To assist in organising charity premiers. For further details phone Barbara Fairlight, 493 1231. Alfred Marks Staff Bureau.
PUBLISHING TRAINEE, 18+, interested in breaking into the book world, is sought by famous W.1 Co. 734 0366 O. J. Cons.

SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS ALSO ON PAGES 12 & 23

Business appointments

Sir Reay Geddes, deputy chairman, Midland Bank

Sir Reay Geddes has been elected a deputy chairman of Midland Bank.

Mr H. N. Raine has been made a non-executive director of Stothert & Pitt.

Mr Ronald Thorley has become financial director of Silentnight Holdings.

Mr Michael Blow is now financial director of Donald MacPherson Group.

Mr K. Batchelor has been made a deputy chairman of C. T. Bowring (Insurance) Holdings, and chairman of C. T. Bowring (Insurance). Mr G. K. Moore and Mr E. G. Wickham become directors of C. T. Bowring (Insurance). Mr W. H. Batchelor, Mr K. D. Bullock, Mr R. A. Mackie and Mr P. C. Price join the board of C. T. Bowring (UK).

Mr Reynold MacDonald joins the board of Wellman Engineering Corporation.

Dr K. J. Hill has become managing director of John & E. Sturge. Dr B. Burrows has joined the company as commercial director.

Mr J. P. Smith is to become Equity & Law Life Assurance Society's investment manager when Mr J. H. Creaton retires on February 23.

Mr Boris Yavitz has been made deputy chairman of the New York Federal Reserve Bank.

Mr C. T. Crook has become director of personnel of Philips Industries from May in succession to Mr L. D. Cowan who will be joining the board of Unigate.

Mr John Hutchings is to be marketing director and Mr Alan Morgan director, operating systems at Chubb Alarms.

Mr R. C. Würtzburg has been made managing director of Hill Blytch, succeeding Mr Francis Plumbe, who remains chairman. Mr K. Y. E. Clarey and Mr G. J. Eagle have also joined the board.

Mr R. M. Scott becomes sales and marketing director of Simpson-Lawrence.

Mr F. E. Eyre has been made an executive member of the Southern Electricity Board.

هكذا من الاصل

MARKET REPORTS

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

US STRAIGHTS ($)

	Bid	Offer
Australia 7 1/4 1984	94 1/4	95
Australia 8 1/4 1992	95	95 1/2
Aust Mining 9 1/4 1992	98	98 1/2
Avco 9 1/4 1985	100 1/2	101 1/4
Barclays 8 1/4 1992	97	97 1/2
Bowater 9 1/4 1992	97	97 1/2
British Gas 9 1981	101 1/4	101 1/4
Citicorp 6 1/4 1980	96	97
Citicorp 7 1981	96 1/2	97
CECA 8 1/4 1989	96	96 1/2
CECA 8 1/4 1997	96	97
DSM 8 1/4 1987	97	97
Cie Aquitaine 8 1/4 1985	96 1/2	97
EIB 8 1/4 1987	97	97 1/2
EEC 7 1/4 1984	97	97
Lisboa 8 1/4 1992	95	95 1/2
Gotaverken 7 1/4 1982	98 1/2	99
Gotaverken 8 1/4 1987	98	99
Hydro Quebec 9 1992	95 1/2	96
ICI 8 1/4 1987	97	97 1/2
IU O'seas 8 1/4 1987	96	97
Light-Services 9 1982	97 1/4	98 1/4
MacMillan Bloed 9 1992	96 1/2	97
Midland Int 8 1/4 1992	96 1/2	97
NCB 8 1987	95	95 1/2
Nat West 9 1986	102	102 1/2
New Zealand DFC 7 1/4 1984	95	95 1/2
Nippon Fudosan 8 1981	99	99 1/2
Occidental 8 1/4 1987	97 1/2	98
Occidental 9 1/4 1981	102 1/2	103
Offshore Mining 8 1/4 1985	97	98 1/2
Quebec 9 1995	95 1/2	96 1/2
Rank Hovis 9 1992	94	94 1/2
R. J. Reynolds 7 1/4 1982	98 1/2	99
Sandvik 9 1/4 1986	99 1/2	100 1/2
Smitsforetag 7 1/4 1982	96	97
Sundstrand 8 1/4 1987	97	97 1/2
Sweden 7 1/4 1982	97 1/2	98
Sweden 8 1/4 1987	95	96
Tauernautobahn 8 1/4 1987	97	97 1/2
Walter Kidde 8 1/4 1985	97	97 1/2

FLOATING RATE NOTES

	Bid	Offer
Andelsbanken 7 11-16 1984	96 1/4	96 1/4
CCF 6 1/4 1983	99	99 1/2
IBJ 7 11-16 1982	99 1/4	99 1/2
LTCB 6 1/4 1982	99 1/2	99 1/2
OKB 6 1/4 1985	99 1/2	100 1/4
Soc. Gen. 7 9-16 1984	98 1/4	98 1/4

CANADIAN DOLLARS

	Bid	Offer
Avco 9 1/4 1982	98 1/2	99 1/4
BM-Rt 8 1/4 1983	97 1/2	98 1/4
Ford 8 1/4 1984	97 1/2	98 1/2
British Columbia MFA 9 1997	98 1/2	99 1/4
Bank 9 1/4 1982	99 1/2	100 1/4
Weller Heller 9 1/4 1984	98 1/2	99 1/4

DEUTSCHE MARKS

	Bid	Offer
CFP 6 1/4 1.7.84	103 1/4	104 1/4
ICI 6 1/4 1.5.87	105 1/4	106
New Zealand 6 1/4 1.5.84	105 1/4	106 1/4
Phyrn 6 1/4 1.9.89	102	102 1/2
Quebec Hydro 6 1/4 16.8.87	101 1/4	102 1/4

US $ CONVERTIBLES

	Bid	Offer
American Express 4 1/4 1987	80 1/2	82 1/2
Beatrice Foods 4 1/4 1992	95 1/2	96 1/2
Beatrice Foods 6 1/4 1991	106	108
Beecham 6 1/4 1992	96 1/2	97 1/2
Borden 6 1/4 1991	107 1/2	109 1/4
Carnation 4 1988	77 1/2	79 1/2
Chevron 5 1988	119 1/4	121 1/4
Eastman Kodak 4 1/4 1988	82 1/4	84 1/4
Fairchild Camera 5 1/4 1991	80 1/2	82 1/2
Ford 5 1988	81	83
Ford 6 1986	91 1/4	93 1/4
General Electric 4 1/4 1987	81	83
Gillette 4 1/4 1987	77	79
Gould 5 1987	113 1/4	115 1/4
Gulf & Western 5 1988	78	80
Honeywell 6 1986	85 1/2	87 1/2
ICI 6 1/4 1997	85 1/4	86 1/4
INA 6 1997	91	93
Inchcape 6 1/4 1992	103 1/4	105 1/4
ITT 4 1/4 1987	75 1/4	77 1/4
J. Ray McDermott 4 1/4 1987	151	153
Illinois Real Estate 6 1990	113	115
J. P. Morgan 4 1/4 1987	95	97
Nabisco 5 1/4 1988	99	101
J. C. Penney 4 1/4 1987	75	77
Revlon 4 1/4 1987	106	108
Reynolds Metals 5 1988	84	86
Sperry Rand 4 1/4 1988	82	84
Squibb 4 1/4 1987	77 1/2	79 1/2
Sumitomo Electric 6 1992	121	122 1/2
Texaco 4 1/4 1988	77	79
Union Bank of Switz 4 1/4 1987	141	143
Warner Lambert 4 1/4 1987	80	82
Xerox Corp 5 1988	77	79

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

India sets up tea review committee

New Delhi, Feb 6.—A committee has been established to review tea marketing at home and abroad, the Indian Government announced.

The committee has been asked review the role of the London auction in the marketing of Indian tea, specifically to see whether Indian tea should be allowed for auction in India only and whether the present system of auctions is advantageous to the producer and fair to the consumer.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	6 1/2%
Barclays Bank	6 1/2%
Consolidated Crdts	6 1/2%
First London Secs	6 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	*6 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	6 1/2%
London Mercantile	6 1/2%
Midland Bank	6 1/2%
Nat Westminster	6 1/2%
Rossminster Acc's	6 1/2%
TSB	6 1/2%
Williams and Glyn's	6 1/2%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 3%, up to £25,000 3 1/4%, over £25,000 3 1/2%.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
62-63 Threadneedle Street London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651
The Over-the-Counter Market

1977/78 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
44	27	Airsprung Ord	42	+1	4.2	10.1	7.8
150	106	Airsprung 18 1/2% CULS	139	—	18.4	13.0	—
39	25	Armitage & Rhodes	38	—	3.3	8.7	16.2
147	105	Bardon Hill	147	+1	12.0	8.2	10.1
105	51	Deborah Ord	105	+2	5.1	4.9	8.5
216	108	Deborah 17 1/2% CULS	215	+2	17.5	8.1	—
147	120	Frederick Parker	136	—	11.5	8.5	6.6
58	36	Jackson Group	51	—	5.0	9.8	6.0
114	55	James Burrough	111	+2	6.0	5.4	10.2
340	188	Robert Jenkins	320	—	27.0	8.4	5.4
24	9	Twinlock Ord	16 1/2	—	—	—	—
82	54	Twinlock 12% ULS	82	—	12.0	14.6	—
79	51	Unilock Holdings	79	+2	7.0	8.9	9.8
90	67	Walter Alexander	90	—	6.4	7.1	6.6

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THE TIMES

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £629-30 a metric ton; three months, £642-43.50. Sales, 1,700 tons. Cash cathodes, £618.50-19.50; three months, £631.50-32.50. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £626-28.50; three months, £640.50-41.50. Settlement, £628.50. Sales, 30,200 tons. Cash cathodes, £618-18.50; three months, £631-31.00. Settlement, £618.50. Sales, 500 tons.

SILVER gained about 1p in the ring.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 254.30p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 491.8); three months, 259.1p (499c); six months, 263.2p (508.3c); one year, 273.4p (527.5c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 254.2-54.4p; three months, 257.6-57.8p. Sales, 69 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 254.3-54.5p; three months, 257.8-57.9p. Settlement, 254.5p. Sales, 21 lots.

TIN was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £6,330-50 a metric ton; three months, £6,255-60. Sales, 520 tons. High grade, cash, £6,330-50; three months, £6,260-75. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £6,340-65; three months, £6,270-80. Settlement, £6,365. Sales, 435 tons. High grade, cash, £6,340-60; three months, £6,280-90. Settlement, £6,395. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, $M 1,716 a picul.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £314.60-15.50 per metric ton; three months, £320.50-21.50. Sales, 1,100 tons. Morning.—Cash, £316.50-17.00; three months, £322.75-23.00. Settlement, £317. Sales, 3,500 tons.

ZINC: Cash lost £4 and three months was £3.75 down.—Afternoon.—Cash, £245.50-46.50 a metric ton; three months, £250.50-51.00. Sales, 1,000 tons. Morning.—Cash, £247.50-48.00; three months, £252.50-53.00. Settlement, £248. Sales, 800 tons. All afternoon prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was at £112 ($217) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was very quiet (pence per kilo).—March, 46.90-46.55; April, 46.90-16.95; April-June, 47.35-47.50; July-Sept, 48.95-49.00; Oct-Dec, 50.55-50.65; Jan-March, 52.30-52.40; April-June, 53.90-54.05; July-Sept, 55.45-55.60; Oct-Dec, 57.05-57.15. Sales: 17 lots at 5 tonnes; 19 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet. Spot, 46.50-48.10. Cifs, March, 47.90-48.25; April, 48-48.50.

COFFEE: Robustas were steadier. Arabicas were very steady.—**ROBUSTAS** (£ per metric tonne): March, 1,803-1,804; May, 1,647-48; July, 1,561-62; Sept, 1,481-90; Nov, 1,421-55; Jan, 1,380-90; March, 1,330-70. Sales: 1,451 lots including 35 options.

ARABICAS ($ per 50 kilos): April, 212.10-12.50; June, 198.25-95.50; Aug, 181-84.50; Oct, 172.50-74.00; Dec, 160-62; March, 154.50-56.00. Sales: 43 lots.

PALM OIL was quiet.—Feb, £270-80 per metric ton; March, £270-80; April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept and Oct, £260-70.

COCOA was very steady.—March, £1,667-69 per metric ton; May, £1,482.50-83.00; July, £1,451-52; Sept, £1,430-34; Dec, £1,412-13; March, £1,389-95; May, £1,375-85. Sales, 3,465 lots including 7 options. ICCO prices: daily, 127.93c; 15-day average, 131.13c; 22-day average, 135.56c (US cents per lb).

Commodities

SUGAR futures were steady. The London daily price of "raws" was £3 lower at £108; the "whites" price was unchanged at £119.—March, £117.75-17.80 per metric ton; May, £121.35-21.60; Aug, £125.60-25.75; Oct, £125.60-25.75; Dec, £127.50-27.75; March, £132-32.25; May, £134.75-35.25. Sales: 1,783 lots. ISA prices: 8.72c; 15-day average, 8.89c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady. Feb, £107-09 per metric ton; April, £104.10-04.40; June, £103.60-03.70; Aug, £104.40-04.60; Oct, £104.60-05.40; Dec, £106-06.20; Feb, £106.50-08.00. Sales, 54 lots.

WOOL: Greasy futures were steady (pence per kilo).—March, 233-36; May, 232-35; July, 233-36; Oct, 236-42; Dec, 240-42; March, 245-47; May, 245-47; July, 245-47. Sales, 10 lots.

JUTE was steady. Bangladesh white "C" grade, afloat $490 per long ton. "D" grade, afloat $475. Calcutta was very steady. Indian, spot, Rs580 per bale of 400 lbs. Dundee Tossa Four, spot, Rs580.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring No 1, 13 1/2 per cent: Feb and March, £84.25 Tilbury. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Feb, £85.25; March, £83 trans-shipment east coast.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American/French: Feb, £97.50; March, £99 trans-shipment east coast. Kenya grade 3: March, £70 nominal; South African yellow: March, £67.75 quoted.

BARLEY was unquoted. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was slightly easier: March, £73.30; May, £75.60; Sept, £79.05; Nov, £81.50; Jan, £83.80. Sales: 151 lots. WHEAT was steadier: March, £85; May, £87; Sept, £83.60; Nov, £86.05; Jan, £88.45. Sales: 67 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Regional and UK average ex-farm spot prices for week ending Feb 2.—Other milling WHEAT: S East, £90.50; S West, no price; Eastern, £90.70; E Midlands, £89.60; W Midlands, no price; N East, £90.30; N West, no price; Scotland, £90; N Ireland, no price; UK, £90.20. Feed WHEAT: S East, £76.40; S West, £76.90; Eastern, £76.70; E Midlands, £78.60; W Midlands, £77.20; N East, £79.60; N West, £77.40; Scotland and N Ireland, no price. UK, £77.60.

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
E Suffolk	—	£78.20	£71.20
N E Scot	—	—	£71.60

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets for week ending January 6.—**GB:** Cattle 63.46p per kglw (+1.78). **UK:** Sheep 130.5p per kgestdcw (+0.4). **GB:** Pigs 60.0p per kglw (+0.3). **ENGLAND AND WALES:** Cattle numbers down 13.8 per cent, average price 63.65p (+1.77). Sheep numbers down 8.0 per cent, average price 130.5p (-0.2). Pig numbers down 0.6 per cent, average price 60.0p (+0.3). **SCOTLAND:** Cattle numbers up 1.5 per cent, average price 62.87p (+1.86). Sheep numbers down 37.8 per cent, average price 129.5p (+2.9). Pig numbers down 10.3 per cent, average price 60.9p (+0.7).

Prices for Feb 6.—**GB:** Cattle, 63.57p per kglw (+0.68). **UK:** Sheep, 129.9p per kgest dcw (-0.8). **GB:** Pigs, 60.0p per kglw (-0.3). **England and Wales:** Cattle numbers up 24.6 per cent, average price 63.87p (+0.72). Sheep numbers up 10.1 per cent, average price 129.4p (-1.6). Pig numbers down 7.9 per cent, average price 60.0p (-0.3). **Scotland:** Cattle numbers up 33.6 per cent, average price 62.41p (+0.64). Sheep numbers up 24.3 per cent, average price 130.9p (+2.1). Pig numbers down 1.8 per cent, average price 62.5p (+1.0).

Copper forum to be set up

Geneva, Feb 6.—Major copper producing and consuming nations have agreed, as expected, to establish a permanent forum to keep the world copper market under review.

A week-long meeting within the framework of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) recommended that a working group of experts should meet during the coming six weeks to draft guidelines for the copper forum. These guidelines would be reviewed at another full governmental meeting in March.

The developing countries were unsuccessful in their call for formal negotiation of an international copper agreement to bolster the currently weak world copper price. Importing nations argued, as at eight previous meetings, that an international copper agreement is not feasible at present, mainly because the cost of financing a buffer stock would be too high.

Unctad proposed that producing countries should cut back on their output, as there are currently more than 200m tons of unsold copper in the world, double the average annual requirement.

Wall Street

New York, Feb 6.—The New York Stock Exchange closed lower today in an abbreviated session. The Dow Jones industrial average was off 2.34 at 768.62.

About 670 issues declined with about 560 higher. Volume was 11,630,000 shares.

Cocoa gains 2.90c

New York, Feb 6.—**COCOA** futures closed in an abbreviated session 2.90 to 0.90 cents higher. The market advanced in thin trade on stepped up commission house short-covering, both here and in London, traders said. The absence of significant Brazilian selling due to the carnival holiday contributed to the price rise. March, 138.25c; May, 127.45c; July, 123.55c; Sept, 120.20c; Dec, 117.30c; March, 115.50c; May, 113.50c.

COFFEE.—Futures in "C" contract closed an abbreviated session 3.25 to 1.43 cents higher. March 194.00-50c; May, 174.01-50c; July, 161.00c; Sept, 152.50-75c; Dec, 142.00-50c; March 138.00-40.00c; May, 135.00-7.00c; July, 129.00-4.00c.

SUGAR.—Futures in No 11 contract were: March, 9.16-17c; May, 9.44c; July, 9.60c; Sept, 9.75c; Oct, 9.85c; Jan, 10.15c nominal; March, 10.43-45c; May, 10.60-71c; July, 10.85-0.90c.

COTTON.—Futures were: March, 56.60-75c; May, 57.65-72c; July, 59.00c; Oct, 59.80c; Dec, 59.90-99c; March, 60.80-85c; May, 61.35-60c; July, 61.50-2.75c.

SILVER.—Futures held net gains averaging 1.00 cent at the close after fluctuating in a narrow 2.00 cent range. Feb, 489.20c; March, 491.70c; April, 495.20c; May, 498.70; July, 505.70c; Sept, 512.90c; Dec, 523.90c; Jan, 527.00c; March, 535.00c; May, 543.50c; July, 550.00c; Sept, 557.60c; Dec, 569.00c. Handy and Harman of Canada, Can$5.441 (previous Can $5.425).

GOLD.—Prices on the Comex were up 80 cents across the board with the exception of the distant December contract which was up 70 cents. On the IMM prices were up 20 cents to $1.10. NY COMEX.—Feb, $175.50; March, $176.40; April, $177.50; June, $179.60; Aug, $182.00; Oct, $184.30; Dec, $187.50; Feb, $189.80; April, $191.60; June, $193.50; Aug, $196.40; Oct, $201.30; Dec, $204.20. CHICAGO IMM.—March, $173.80-175.60; June, $179.70-179.60; Sept, $183.50; Dec, $187.40 asked; March, $191.30 asked; June, $195.80; Sept, $200.00 asked; Dec, $203.80 asked.

COPPER.—Futures closed steady between 20 and 30 points down. Feb, 57.00c; March, 57.40c; April, 57.90c; May, 58.30c; July, 59.30c; Sept, 60.30c; Dec, 61.60c; Jan, 62.10c; March, 63.00c; May, 63.90c; July, 64.90c; Sept, 65.80c; Dec, 67.20c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS.—Meal futures ended $1.60 to $0.70 a ton higher while Oil futures finished 0.08 to 0.03 cent a lb lower. SOYABEANS.—March, 574 1/4-75c; May, 582 1/4-83c; July, 588-88 1/4c; Aug, 588c; Sept, 577c; Nov, 570-71c; Jan, 583c; March, 591c. SOYABEAN OIL.—March, 20.75-80c; May, 20.58-56c; July, 20.50-52c; Aug, 20.42c; Sept, 19.90-20.00c; Oct, 19.55-60c; Dec, 19.50c; Jan, 19.40-45c; March, 19.35-40c. SOYABEAN MEAL.—March, $152.10-2.30; May, $156.00-5.00; July, $159.00-8.00; Aug, $160.00; Sept, $160.00; Oct, $160.00-0.50; Dec, $162.00-2.10; Jan, $163.00-4.00; March, $164.00-5.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS: WHEAT: March, 268 1/4-1/2c; May, 274c; July, 278 1/4-1/2c; Sept, 283 1/4c; Dec, 292c; March, 30c. CORN: March, 227 1/4-27c; May, 230 1/4-31c; July, 230 1/2-31c; Sept, 227 1/2c; Dec, 226 1/4c; March, 237 1/4c. OATS: March, 135c; May, 133 1/4c; July, 131 1/4c; Sept, 137 1/4c asked; Dec, 142 1/4c.

	Feb 6	Feb 3		Feb 6	Feb 3		Feb 6	Feb 3
Allied Chem	36	37	Fst Penn Corp	16	16	Republic Steel	23	23
Allied Stores	19	19	Ford	41	41	Reynolds Ind	55	55
Allied Supermkt	2	2	GAF Corp	11	11	Reynolds Metal	29	29
Allis Chalmers	24	24	Gamble Skogmo	27	27	Rockwell Int	29	28
Alcoa	39	39	Gen Dynamics	41	41	Royal Dutch	56	55
Amax Inc	32	32	Gen Electric	46	46	Safeways	36	36
Amerada Hess	23	24	Gen Foods	29	29	St Regis Paper	27	27
Am Airlines	9	10	Gen Mills	28	28	Santa Fe Ind	35	35
Am Brands	44	43	Gen Motors	59	60	SCM	17	17
Am Broadcast	35	35	Gen Pub Util NY	19	18	Schlumberger	69	65
Am Can	36	36	Gen Tel Elec	28	29	Scott Paper	13	13
Am Cyanamid	25	25	Gen Tire	24	24	Seaboard Coast	34	34
Am Elec Power	22	22	Genesco	5	5	Seagram	21	21
Am Home	26	26	Georgia Pacific	25	25	Sears Roebuck	25	25
Am Motors	4	4	Getty Oil	16	16	Shell Oil	29	29
Am Nat Res	41	40	Gillette	24	24	Shell Trans	37	37
Am Standard	34	35	Goodrich	19	19	Signal Co	28	28
Am Telephone	59	59	Goodyear	17	16	Singer	19	19
AMF Inc	16	17	Gould Inc	26	26	Sth Cal Edison	23	23
Armco Steel	27	28	Grace	25	25	Southern Pacific	33	33
Asarco	14	14	Gt Atltc & Pacific	7	7	Southern Rly	48	48
Ashland Oil	28	29	Greyhound	13	12	Sperry Rand	33	33
Atlntc Richfield	45	45	Grumman Corp	16	16	Squibb	24	24
Avco	18	17	Gulf Oil	25	24	Std Brands	23	24
Avon Products	44	44	Gulf & West	11	11	Std Oil Califnia	38	37
Babcock & Wcox	57	57	Heinz H. J.	36	36	Std Oil Indiana	46	46
Bankers Tst NY	35	35	Hercules	14	15	Std Oil Ohio	67	67
Bank of America	21	21	Honeywell	44	44	Sterling Drug	13	13
Bank of NY	30	30	IC Inds	23	23	Stevens J. P.	15	15
Beatrice Foods	22	23	Ingersoll	57	57	Stude Worth	47	47
Bell & Howell	14	14	Inland Steel	36	36	Sunbeam Corp	19	19
Bendix	33	33	IBM	258	258	Sun Comp	37	36
Bethlehem Steel	21	20	Int Harvester	29	29	Sundstrand	33	33
Boeing	25	25	INCO	14	15	Teledyne	69	67
Boise Cascade	23	23	Int Paper	39	39	Tenneco	29	29
Borden	29	29	Int Tel Tel	28	29	Texaco	24	24
Borg Warner	25	25	Jewel Co	19	18	Texas East Trans	41	40
Bristol Myers	32	32	Jim Walter	28	28	Texas Inst	69	69
BP	14	14	Johns-Manville	29	29	Texas Utilities	19	18
Budd	33	33	Johnson & John	70	70	Textron	25	25
Burlington Ind	20	20	Kaiser Alumin	23	23	TWA	11	11
Burlington Nthn	39	40	Kennecott	20	20	Travelers Corp	29	29
Burroughs	63	63	Kerr McGee	42	42	TRW Inc	30	30
Campbell Soup	33	33	Kimberly Clark	41	42	UAL Inc	20	20
Canadian Pacific	15	15	Kraftco Corp	43	43	Unilever Ltd	43	43
Caterpillar	50	50	K Mart	25	25	Unilever NV	54	54
Celanese	37	37	Kroger	28	28	Union Bancorp	14	14
Central Soya	13	13	Ligget Group	27	27	Union Carbide	38	39
Charter NY	28	28	LTV Corp	6	6	Union Oil Calif	49	49
Chase Manhat	28	28	Litton	13	13	Un Pacific Corp	43	43
Chem Bank NY	38	38	Lockheed	13	14	Uniroyal	7	7
Chesapeake Ohio	32	32	Lucky Stores	13	13	United Brands	7	7
Chrysler	13	13	Manuf Hanover	32	32	US Industries	7	7
Citicorp	19	19	Mapco	31	31	US Steel	27	27
Cities Service	47	47	Marathon Oil	45	45	Utd Technol	34	34
Clark Equip	31	31	Marine Midland	14	14	Wachovia	16	16
Coca Cola	36	36	Martin Marietta	23	23	Warner Comm	30	30
Colgate	19	19	McDonnell	21	21	Warner Lambert	27	27
CBS	45	46	Mead	20	20	Wells Fargo	25	25
Columbia Gas	28	27	Merck	55	54	West'n Bancorp	30	30
Combustion Eng	33	33	Minnesota Mng	47	47	Westnghse Elec	17	18
Comwlth Edison	27	27	Mobil Oil	59	59	Weyerhauser	24	24
Cons Edison	22	22	Monsanto	50	50	Whirlpool	20	20
Cons Foods	24	24	Morgan J. P.	41	41	White Motor	8	8
Cons Power	23	23	Motorola	38	38	Woolworth	18	18
Continental Grp	31	31	NCR Corp	40	40	Xerox Corp	45	45
Continental Oil	27	27	NL Industries	18	18	Zenith	13	13
Control Data	25	25	Nabisco	49	49			
Corning Glass	48	48	Nat Distillers	21	21			
CPC Intnl	42	43	Nat Steel	30	31			
Crane	23	23	Norfolk West	27	27			
Crocker Int	23	24	NW Bancorp	23	23			
Crown Zeller	30	30	Norton Simon	15	15			
Dart Ind	36	36	Occidental Pet	21	21			
Deere	24	24	Ogden	23	23			
Del Monte	23	23	Olin Corp	16	15			
Delta Air	39	39	Owens-Illinois	20	20			
Detroit Edison	16	16	Pacific Gas Elec	23	23			
Disney	34	33	Pan Am	5	5			
Dow Chemical	24	24	Penney J. C.	33	33			
Dresser Ind	39	39	Pennzoil	28	28			
Duke Power	19	19	Pepsico	25	25			
Du Pont	105	106	Pet Inc	36	37			
Eastern Air	6	6	Pfizer	27	27			
Eastman Kodak	45	45	Phelps Dodge	19	19			
Eaton Corp	34	34	Philip Morris	59	60			
El Paso Nat Gas	15	15	Phillips Petrol	28	28			
Equitable Life	24	24	Polaroid	24	24			
Esmark	27	27	PPG Ind	24	24			
Evans P. D.	13	13	Proctor Gamble	77	77			
Exxon Corp	44	44	Pub Ser El & Gas	22	22			
Fed Dept Stores	35	36	Pullman	34	34			
Firestone	15	14	Rapid American	6	6			
Fst Chicago	17	17	Raytheon	31	30			
Fst Nat Boston	25	25	RCA Corp	24	25			

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 1.9387 (1.9422); three months, 1.9397 (1.9427); Canadian dollar, 90.00 (90.30).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 350.25. The futures index was 334.04.

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 768.62 (770.88); transportation, 212.16 (212.59); utilities, 105.21 (105.31); 65 stocks, 270.57 (271.45). New York Stock Exchange index, 49.64 (49.72); industrials, 53.12 (53.20); transportation, 39.52 (39.62); utilities, 38.97 (39.04); financial, 50.79 (50.80).

LME metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (all in tonnes except silver) were:

Copper down 7,100 to 636,225; tin down 180 to 4,190; lead up 225 to 68,300; zinc down 325 to 65,000; silver down 240,000 to 19,940,000 troy ounces.

Foreign Exchange

Both sterling and the French franc reduced initial falls on foreign exchanges yesterday. The pound was around one cent down at the outset on continued concern about the labour threat to the Government's pay recommendations, but the loss was finally reduced to a modest quarter of a cent at $1.9390. The effective exchange rate index fell .01 to 66.3 after 66.2.

The French franc weakened almost 4 centimes against the dollar at one time on persisting fears about left-wing success at the coming general election but it closed at 4.9300 against 4.9100 on Friday night. German marks were unchanged at 2.1070 and the Swiss franc firmed from 1.9665 to 1.9610. The Japanese yen gained from 241.70 to 241.05.

Gold gained $0.75 to close in London at $175.625.

Discount market

Money market conditions proved easier yesterday than had seemed likely in the face of a £320m "call" on Treasury 10 1/2 per cent 1999. Part of the reason was that not all of that instalment would have been paid over in one day. The remainder will probably trickle in over another day or two.

The only other adverse factor in the market was a very slight net Treasury bill take-up.

There was a slight fall in note circulation, so the Bank of England was called upon to provide only moderate-scale help, split into moderate purchases of Treasury bills and a small amount of local authority bills. The interbank market, fearing a tight day, called rates 6 1/2 to 6 3/4 per cent at the outset. Discount houses, however, mostly judged the situation rather better than that. They stood back and rarely moved before rates had come off to 5 1/2 per cent. Then they took in money steadily on declining rates that had reached 5 per cent by lunchtime. Final balances were pulled in within a band of 4 to 4 1/2 per cent.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1977/78 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]					

Authorized Unit Trusts [illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds [illegible]

Offshore and International Funds [illegible]

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Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts fall back

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 30. Dealings End, Feb 10. § Contango Day, Feb 13. Settlement Day, Feb 21.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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BRITISH FUNDS

1977/78 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
101	95	Treas 9% 1978	100	..	8.973	5.816
104	97	Treas 10½% 1978	102	−¼	10.281	5.473
100	90	Exch 5% 1976-78	99	−¼	5.025	5.785
107	95	Treas 11½% 1979	104	−¼	11.060	7.586
97	84	Treas 3% 1979	94	−¼	3.166	6.493
99	85	Elec 4½% 1974-79	95	−¼	4.424	6.984
106	92	Treas 10½% 1979	102	−¼	10.229	8.814
97	84	Elec 3½% 1976-79	94	−¼	3.692	6.694
106	87	Treas Cnv 9% 1980	100	−¼	8.970	8.986
105	88	Treas 9½% 1980	100	−¼	9.431	9.132
96	83	Treas 3½% 1977-80	93	−¼	3.761	6.710
99	83	Fund 5½% 1978-80	94	−¼	5.880	8.045
112	96	Exch 13% 1980	107	−¼	12.107	9.800
109	92	Treas 11½% 1981	103	−¼	11.097	9.844
94	77	Treas 3½% 1979-81	90	−¼	3.880	7.149
104	86	Treas 9½% 1981	99	−¼	9.810	9.865
97	95	Exch 8¼% 1981	95	−¼	8.669	9.828
110	97	Exch 9¾% 1981	98	−¼	9.620	9.947
92	87	Exch 3% 1981	87	−¼	3.425	7.044
113	96	Exch 12¾% 1981	107	−¼	11.848	10.255
100	82	Treas 8¼% 1980-82	95	−¼	8.680	9.825
93	72	Treas 3% 1982	84	−¼	3.571	7.862
119	101	Treas 14% 1982	111	−¼	12.529	10.421
99	83	Treas 8¼% 1982	93	−¼	8.802	10.050
103	85	Exch 9¼% 1982	96	−¼	9.559	10.147
87	81	Exch 3% 1983	81	−¼	3.700	7.584
114	95	Treas 12% 1983	110	−1	11.352	10.809
107	95	Treas 9½% 1983	95	−1	9.770	10.435
95	72	Fund 5½% 1982-84	85	−1	6.455	8.733
99	77	Treas 8½% 1984-86	93	−1	9.192	9.849
87	67	Fund 6½% 1985-87	69	−1	7.940	9.501
92	77	Treas 7¾% 1985-88	85	−1	9.126	10.161
73	49	Trans 3% 1978-88	63	−1	4.745	8.352
75	54	Treas 5% 1986-89	70	−1	7.274	9.490
120	90	Treas 13% 1990	109	−1¼	12.010	11.690
93	67	Treas 8¼% 1987-90	84	−1¼	9.889	10.698
111	90	Treas 11¾% 1991	100	−1¼	11.834	11.841
73	54	Fund 5¾% 1987-91	70	−1	8.480	10.321
117	87	Treas 12¾% 1992	106	−1¼	12.080	11.928
97	86	Treas 10% 1992	86	−1¼	11.289	11.673
113	89	Exch 12¼% 1992	101	−1¼	11.996	11.957
115	91	Treas 12½% 1993	104	−1¼	12.071	12.005
72	51	Fund 6% 1993	64	..	9.172	10.565
126	96	Treas 13¾% 1993	114	−1¼	12.379	12.143
129	99	Treas 14½% 1994	115	−1¼	12.432	12.122
114	94	Exch 12½% 1994	107	−1¼	12.104	12.044
95	86	Treas 9% 1994	85	−1	10.648	11.272
110	97	Treas 12% 1995	100	−1¼	11.973	11.983
51	32	Gas 3% 1990-95	43	−¼	6.874	9.033
118	87	Treas 12¾% 1995	107	−1¼	12.151	12.083
91	67	Treas 9% 1992-96	81	..	10.940	11.326
133	101	Treas 15¼% 1996	125	−1¼	12.574	12.302
123	89	Exch 13¼% 1996	111	−1¼	12.222	12.099
50	32	Rdmptn 3% 1986-96	47	−¼	6.516	9.037
121	87	Treas 13¼% 1997	109	−1¼	12.213	12.056
99	90	Exch 10½% 1997	90	−1¼	11.589	11.747
89	65	Treas 8¾% 1997	79	−1	10.997	11.374
72	51	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	67	−¼	10.360	12.111
135	103	Treas 15½% 1998	129	−1¼	12.501	12.261
96	65	Treas 9½% 1999	85	−1	11.191	11.412
47	27	Fund 3½% 1999-04	39	−¼	8.971	10.209
81	57	Treas 8% 2002-06	75	−¼	10.976	11.162
58	40	Treas 5½% 2008-12	51	−¼	10.641	10.896
90	53	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	71	−¼	10.932	11.018
39	26	Consols 4%	34	−¼	11.572	..
39	26	War Ln 3½%	35	−¼	10.047	..
39	28	Conv 3½%	37	−¼	9.684	..
29	20	Treas 3%	26	−¼	11.890	..
24	17	Consols 2½%	22	−¼	11.351	..
24	17	Treas 2½% Aft 75	22	−¼	11.767	..



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NON-SECRETARIAL

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The Times are seeking two lively people who want an interesting and challenging career and enjoy talking to and dealing with all types of people.
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Do you want to be part of our young successful team ? Ring now:
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THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS, NEW PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE, GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON WC1X 8EZ

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PA/Secretary

required for a small dynamic international company located in charming Blackheath village. The company is involved in the marketing and design of TV, radio and audio equipment.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that GHASSAN WAHRAM NERCESSIAN of 5 Parks Road, London SW13 9NF is applying to the Home Secretary for naturalisation, and that any person who knows any reason why naturalisation should not be granted should send a written and signed statement of the facts to the Under Secretary of State, Home Office (Nationality Division), Lunar House, Wellesley Road, Croydon CR9 2BY

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PERSONAL also on pages 25 and 26

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(continued on page 25)

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The who's who of what's where

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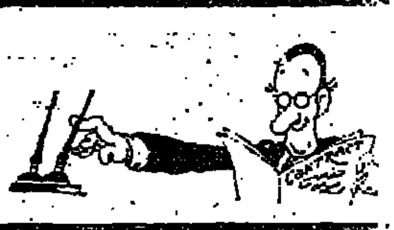
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The Times

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BOX 0754 K, THE TIMES.

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BOX 0752 K, THE TIMES

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BOX 0362 K, THE TIMES

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Broadcasting

Britain is full of young musicians, some talented, some not quite so. There are more than enough of the former, however, to make BBC's Young Musicians of the Year compulsive and praiseworthy. On a very different tack (or is it?), but certainly no less viewable, the Variety Club Awards are presented to the grown-ups. It is Julian Pettifer's turn tonight to report from China—the Chinese Way indeed, but is it life?—IRR.

News. 1.00, Pebble Ragtime. 2.00-2.14, Me. 3.20, Pobol y Play School. 4.20, r. 4.25, Jackanory. l Magic. 5.05, John 5, Star Turn. . 5.55, Nationwide. g Musician of the ... ety Club Awards. Good Old Days. ... Our Day Out, by Russell. ght: The Robot Re- ion. Engineers. her.

tions (BBC 1): 5.—3.20-3.55 pm. Closedown. 5.55-6.20, 6.55, Heddiw. 7.15, 7.45-8.10, Ask the .15, Variety Club 0, News. 12.02-12.27 ineers. SCOTLAND.— Transmitters Close- 20. Reporting Scot- HERN IRELAND.— Transmitters Close- .55, Northern Ireland 20, Scene Around Six

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 am, Play School. 2.15-2.30 pm, Other People's Children. 3.00, Film as Evi- dence. 3.30-3.55, The Living City. 6.35, Open University: Introduction to Science.
7.00 News Headlines.
7.05 Propaganda with Facts: *Our Soviet Friends.**
7.30 Newsday, including the Chinese Economy.
8.10 *Pro-Celebrity Golf*: Mike Gibson and Tony Jacklin v Eric Sykes and Johnny Miller.
9.00 In the Looking Glass: Atlantis, with John For- tune, John Wells, Made- line Smith, Carl Davis.
9.30 The Chinese Way, rural life.
10.35 Embassy world Profes- sional Darts Champion- ships.
11.20 News.
11.30-12.15 am, The Old Grey Whistle Test, with The Adverts, Jim Capaldi.
* Black and white.

Thames

11.55 am, Felix the Cat. 12.00, The Wotsit From Whizz-Bang. 12.10 pm, Rainbow. 12.30, Kit- chen Garden (r). 1.00, News. 1.20, *Help!* 1.30, *Crown Court.* 2.00, Afternoon. 2.25, Sam (r). 3.20, *Rolf Harris.* 3.50, Couples (r). 4.20, Get It Together. 4.45, Magpie. 5.10, Sportscene.
5.45 News. 6.00, Thames at 6.
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 Dave Allen.
7.30 The Streets of San Fran- cisco.
8.30 Rising Damp (r).
9.00 Wilde Alliance.
10.00 News.
10.30 Boxing. John Conteh (GB) v Joe Cokes (US).
11.30 Quincy.
12.25 Epilogue.
(r) Repeat.

ATV

11.55 am, Betty Boop. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 3.20, Quick on the Draw. 3.50, Thames. 5.15, *Laverne and Shirley.* 5.45, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, *Crossroads.* 7.00, Emmerdale Farm. 7.30, Dave Allen. 8.00, Charlie's Angels. 9.00, Thames. 11.30-12.30 am, Gibbsville.

Southern

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, South- ern News. 1.30, Crown Court. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.25, Sam. 3.20, Survival. 3.50, Thames. 5.15, Betty Boop. 5.20, Cross- roads. 5.45, News. 6.00 Day by Day. 7.00, ATV. 9.00, Thames. 11.30, Southern News. 11.40, The Practice. 12.10 am, Weather, Epilogue.

es. 1.20 pm, West 25, Wales Headlines. am. 3.20, Electric 3.50, Thames. 5.15, r. 5.20, Southern. West. 6.15, Report Granada. 7.00, ATV. lonic Woman. 8.30, Nest. 9.00, Thames. m, Executive Suite. I/WALES.—As HTV 1.25 pm, Penawdau Dydd. 4.20, Mid 45, Seren Wib. 6.00- dd. 10.30, Brwyd- in Action. 11.45- ing. HTV WEST.—As 1.20-1.30 pm, West 5-6.30, Report West.

Granada

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 3.20, Mr and Mrs. 3.50, Thames. 5.10, This is Your Right. 5.15, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, Emmer- dale Farm. 7.00, Thames. 11.30, Play the Game. 12.00-12.30 am. Wait Till Your Father Gets Home.

Yorkshire

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 3.20, House- party. 3.50, Thames. 5.15, Indoor League. 5.45, News. 6.00, Calen- der. 6.35, ATV. 9.00, Thames. 11.30-12.25 am, Police Woman.

d

. 1.20 pm, Westward ... 1.30, Thames. ou Were Here? 3.50, 5. The Flintstones. .00, Westward Diary. .00, Treasure Hunt. 8.30, Dave Allen. 3. 11.30, Westside am, Faith for Life.

Tyne Tees

12.00 pm, Thames. 1.20, North East News. 1.30, Thames. 3.20, The Odd Couple. 3.50, Thames. 5.15, Friends of Man. 5.45, News. 6.00, Northern Life. 6.35, ATV. 9.00, Thames. 11.30, The Col- laborators. 12.30 am, Epilogue.

s, 1.25 pm, Anglia Southern. 3.20, Elec- how. 3.50, Thames. dale Farm. 5.45, About Anglia. 6.35, Movin' On. 8.30, 00, Christians in

Scottish

12.00 pm, Thames. 1.25, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 3.20, Mr and Mrs. 3.50, Thames. 5.15, Pipel. 5.20, Southern. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, What's Your Problem? 7.00, ATV. 8.00, Thingummyjig (r). 9.00, Thames. 11.30, Late Call. 11.35-12.35 am, Rush (r).

n

. 1.20 pm, Grampian as. 1.30, Thames. Only. 3.45, Cartoon. 5.15, Wings 'n' News. 6.00, Gram- 5.10, Out of town. 7.30, Thingummyjig. 11.30, Reflections. , Police Woman.

Ulster

12.00 pm, Thames. 1.20, Lunch- time. 1.30, Thames. 3.20, Mr and Mrs. 3.50, Thames. 5.15, Friends of Man. 5.45, News. 6.00, Ulster Television News. 6.05, Crossroads. 6.30, Reports. 7.00, ATV. 9.00, Thames. 11.30, Pro-Celebrity Snooker.

annel. News. 1.30, Wish You Were Thames. 5.15, The .45, News. 6.00, 6.35, ATV. 7.00, 7.30, Thames. 8.30, 00, Thames. 11.30, edical. 12.25 am,

Border

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Border News. 1.30, Southern. 3.20, Friends of Man. 3.50, Thames. 5.15, Indoor League. 5.45, News. 6.00, Lookaround. 6.35, ATV 9.00. Thames. 11.30, Baretta. 12.25 am, Border News.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News. Ray Moore.† 7.02, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Simon Bates. 11.31, Paul Bur- nett. 2.00 pm, Tony Blackburn. 4.31, Dave Lee Travis. 7.02, Folk 78.† 7.30, On the Third Beat.† 8.02, Hubert Gregg. 9.02, Among Your Souvenirs.† 9.55, Sports Desk. 10.02, John Peel.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† stereo.

2

6.00 am, News. 6.02, Ray Moore.† 7.32, Terry Wogan.† (8.27, Racing bulletin). 10.02, Jimmy Young.† 12.15 pm, Wag- goners' Walk. 12.30, Pete Mur- ray.† 2.30, David Hamilton.† 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, John Dunn.† 6.45, Sport. 7.00, Radio 1. 10.02, Beat the Record. 10.30, Gene Pitney. 11.02, Brian Matthew. 12.00, News.

3

6.55 am, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.05, C. P. E. Bach, Hummel, Handel. Mozart.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Auber, Chabrier, d'Indy, Francaix, Ibert. 9.00, News. 9.05, Paganini.† 9.50, A Toccata of Galuppi's, by Browning. 9.55, Harpsichord recital: Bal- dassare Galuppi.† 10.30, Academy of the BBC: Dvorak, Beethoven.† 11.35, Plainsong and the Rise of European Music. 12.15 pm, Concert, part 1: Honegger, Stravinsky. 1.00, News. 1.05, The Arts Worldwide. 1.20, Concert, part 2: Beethoven. 2.05, Chamber music: Haydn, Beethoven.† 3.05, A Little Light Music.† 4.05, Vaughan Williams Sym- phonies, conducted by Boult.† 4.45, A Late Mozart Quartet.† 5.15, Jazz Today.† 5.45, Home- ward Bound.† 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound. 6.30, Nation at Work. 7.00, Children in the Family. 7.30 BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra, part 1: Walton, Josephs, Bax.† 8.10, Goldring in Australia. 8.30, Concert, part 2: Brahms.† 9.15, The Eye of the Storm, a portrait of A. R. Orage.† 10.15, Piano recital: Haydn and Beethoven.† 10.50, Schumann: Dichterliebe.† 11.25, News. 11.30-11.35, Schubert Song.†

4

6.15 am, News. 6.17, Farming. 6.35, Up to the Hour. 7.00, News. 7.10, Today. 7.35, Up to the Hour. 8.00, News. 8.10, Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Par- liament. 9.00, News. 9.05, Tues- day Call: 01-580 4411. How Much is That Doggie in the Window with James Alcock and Phil Drabble. 10.00, News. 10.05, Round Europe Quiz. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Play. Commercial Break. 11.35, Through African Eyes. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.20, Desert Island Discs. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, The World at One: News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen With Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, The Pickwick Papers. 4.00, News. 4.05, Gar- deners' Question Time. 4.35, Story. Harriet. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.40, Serendipity. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.30, The Burkiss Way. 7.00, News. 7.05, The Archers. 7.20, Time for Verse. 7.30, Radio 3. 9.20, Kaleido- scope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.30, My Sainted Aunt, with Trevor Bannister. 11.00, A Book at Bedtime, Troubles. 11.15, The Financial World Tonight. 11.30, Today in Parlia- ment. 11.45, News. 12.03-12.06 am, Inshore Forecast.

RENTALS

MAYFAIR.—Green Street, ground floor, 3 bed, 2 reception, k. & b., fully furnished, C.H., porter, short term let, £150 p.w. Tele- phone 629 1310.

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GUILDFORD.—Charming secluded house walking distance main line station, all amenities. Furnished/ equipped high standard. 3 beds., 2 recept., etc., £260 p.c.m.—Pil- grims Ltd., Runfold 3130.

applicants needing flats/house central London. From £50 p.w.— 730 9954.

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(continued on page 26)

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" . . . For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust *of the eyes, and the pride of life,* is not of the Father, but is of the world."—1 St. John 2: 16.

BIRTHS

SHIDLEY.—On 6th February, at Exeter Maternity Hospital, Heavitree, to Frances (nee Fairhurst) and Christopher—a daughter.

DOUBLEDAY.—On 3rd February, at home, to John and Isobel—a son (James Verder Hanbrooke), a brother for Robert and Edwin.

EVERETT.—On February 5th to Caroline (nee Colley) and William, a *son*, George.

FISZMAN.—On Saturday, February 4th to Susan (nee Alexander) a daughter, Katie Louise, Sister for Emma, Marc and Paul.

GIBSON.—On Saturday 4th February, a daughter for Anne and Clive.

HAWES.—On 4th February, to *Josephine (nee Wane) and Peter*, a daughter, Charlotta Caroline.

LEA.—On February 4th at Poole General Hospital to Andrea (nee Judge) and Mark Lea—a son.

LEADLAY.—On February 4th 1978, at the John Radcliffe, Oxford to Christina Maria (nee Teake) and Peter—a daughter (*Francesca Catherine*).

MAY.—On February 3rd, 1978, at the West London Hospital, to Diana (nee Cobban) and Andrew Sheridan May—a daughter (Olivia Kate), sister to Joshua.

OLIVER.—On 3rd February to Jan (nee Evans) and Philip—a daughter (Joanne Katherine).

ORDE.—On *February 5th at Queen Charlotte's* to Fiona (nee Bremner) and William—a son, brother for Sophie.

PICKLES.—On February 1st, at RAF Hospital, Wegberg, to Sarah and *Godfrey*—a son (Jonathan).

SHARMAN.—On 5th February, to Vanessa (nee Watson) and Michael Sharman—a daughter (a sister for Hugo).

SNODDY.—On February 6th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Diana (nee Jaroszuk) and Raymond—a daughter (Julia Louise).

STREATFEILD.—On 3rd February, in New York, to Sara and Simon—twins, a daughter (Olivia Sue) and a son (Jeremy Everard John).

WOOD.—On February 5th at The Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, to Isobel (nee Hughes) and David—a son (Matthew Alexander), a brother for Miranda, Thomas and Daniel.

MARRIAGES

MIDDEL : DICKINSON.—On February 4th at St. Gregory's Church, Bollington, Cheshire, Peter, second son of Dr. and Frau Hermann Middel, of Roisdorf, Bonn, West Germany, to Anna, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dickinson, of Horbury, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

SILVER WEDDING

PRESSEY : WHITEHEAD.—On 7th February, 1953, at St Anne's Church, Tottington, Lancs, Captn Tim Pressey to Prudence Katharine Whitehead, present address Middlemarch, Moreton Morrell, Warwick.

DEATHS

ADAMS, WILLIAM STIRK, F.R.C.S., of 81, Harborne Rd., Birmingham 15, on 1st February, 1978. Founder-President of the Mid-*land Otolaryngological Society*.

ATKINSON.—On Feb 2nd, Samuel G. Atkinson, of Lord Harris Court, Sindlesham, Berks, beloved husband of Florence (Sal) and father of Peggy Slesseck and Barbara Goodey. No flowers, please.

BATTERSBY.—On February 6th, 1978, *peacefully, at home*, Edmund James, of Hornby Castle, Hornby, near Lancaster, husband of Mary and father of Susan and David. Funeral Thursday, 9th Feb., at 2 p.m. at St. Margaret's, Hornby. Flowers may be sent to T. Preston, Halton-on-Lune, near Lancaster.

BAXTER.—On Sunday, February 5th, 1978, at the Bristol General Hospital, aged 65, Vincent Torry, M.B., Ch.B., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A., until November, 1977, consultant anaesthetist at the United Bristol Hospitals. Most dearly loved husband of Jean, brother of Donald, father of Alison and Jonathan, and grandfather of Joanna and Rowena. No flowers, please; but donations may be sent to the Department of Cardiology, Bristol General Hospital, Guinea Street, Bristol 1. Service at the Church of St. Mary, Redcliffe, Bristol, on Thursday, February 9th, at 2.30 p.m., to be followed by private cremation.

BENNETT. — On February 3rd, peacefully, at the Charterhouse, London, E.C.1., Cecil Tristram Bennett, husband of the late Sheila Bennett. Service at West London Crematorium on Friday, February 10th at 10.30 a.m. —Enquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd. Tel. 01834 4624.

BODEN, HARRY.—Suddenly and peacefully, at his home, near Flushing, Cornwall, on 3rd February, Harry, B.Sc., F.I.Mech.E., second son of the late Forbes and Amy Boden and husband of *Margaret* (nee Raikie), of Tankerness. Cremation private. No flowers, please, but donations if liked to the R.N.L.I.

BRAYHAM.—On Sunday, February 5th, 1978, peacefully, in her sleep at home, Jem Mackenzie Brayham, dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral service, *Friday, February 10th*, in St. Andrew's Church, Kingswood, Surrey, at 1.30 p.m.

BURDETT.—Peacefully on February 3rd, 1978, Arthur St. George, beloved husband of Gladys and father of John and Gay. Late of Coolfin, Banagher, County Ossaly, Eire.

BUSBY.—On Feb 5th, 1978, Francis Henry Busby, O.B.E., beloved husband of Marjorie, father, father-in-law and grandfather. Requiem Mass and funeral service at Our Lady of Ransom Church, Eastbourne, on Friday, Feb. 10th at 12 noon, followed by private interment at Ocklynge Cemetery, Eastbourne, Sussex. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation, 57 Gloucester Place, London, W.1.

CAMPBELL.—On 5th Feb., the Rev. John Young, D.D., at the Old Vicarage, Moulsford, peacefully, in his 91st year. Funeral at Aston Tirrold U.R. Church, 11.30 a.m., Fri., 10 February, followed by cremation at Oxford Crematorium, 1 p.m. No flowers, no letters, by request. Donations if desired to Friends of the Elderly & Gentlefolks Help, 42 Ebury St., London SW1W 0LZ.

CLEAVER.—On 4th February after a short illness, at home at 8 Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, Margaret June, dearest wife of Alan Cleaver and mother of John and Tessa. Funeral at Iffley Church, at 11.15 a.m. on Friday, 10th February, followed by cremation. *Cut flowers only*.

COWARD.—On Feb 5th, 1978, peacefully, at home, Dora Kate, aged 87 years, of "Toll Gate", Uplyme, Devon, the beloved and loving sister of Christobel and Eleanor. Funeral service at the Parish Church, Lyme Regis, on Thursday, at 2 p.m., followed by private cremation.

DAY.—On January 28th, at Little Tew, Florence Kate and on February 2nd, Arthur, beloved husband and wife for 53 years. Dearest lifelong friends of Nancy and Betty Sandars.

EVANS.—On February 5th, 1978, Maud Agnes, aged 91 years, peacefully in St. Joseph's Hospital and formerly of Grove Park Terrace, Chiswick, W.4. Service in St. Josephs Convent, Burlington Lane, on Friday, February 10th at 11 a.m., followed by committal at Mortlake Crematorium at 12 noon. All inquiries to W. S. Bond Ltd. Tel. 994 0277.

FERNSBY, RONALD.—Of Richmond House, Vicarage Lane, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham, on 6th of Feb., 1978. Dearly loved husband of Irene, father of Roland and stepfather of Judy. Service St Mary's Church, *Radcliffe-on-Trent*, Friday the 10th of February, at 12 noon, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

GARE.—On February 2nd, peacefully, in hospital in Nairobi, Ernest Monk Gare, much loved husband of Evelyn and father of Inez and Joan.

GARNETT.—On *Wednesday, February 1st, 1978*, peacefully, John Harvey at Farnham Common. No letters. Funeral private.

GUTHRIE.—On 6 February, 1978, Isabel Jane. Peacefully at her home, Stichester House, near Reading in her 86th year.

HALL.—On February the 5th, peacefully in his sleep, in his 87th year, the Rev David Patrick Hall, O.B.E., M.A., of the Wellington Hotel, Tunbridge Wells.

HAWTHORNE, NOLA.—On 3rd February, peacefully, in her sleep, daughter of the late George *Nicholas, in Melbourne, Australia*.

KNIGHT.—On February 1st, suddenly, at Withnell Fold, Chorley, Mollie, beloved wife of Branson and dear mother of Rosemary, Eileen, Janet, Hilary and Alice.

LEVETT.—On February 4th, 1978, very peacefully, at home in Limpsfield, after a long illness, very patiently borne, Mary Florence Levett, the dearly loved wife of Theo Levett, much loved mother of Juan, Helen MacGillivray and devoted grandmother of Richard, Christian McCulloch. Funeral and service of thanksgiving for her life at *St. Peters Church, Tandridge*, Oxted, on Thursday, February 9th, at 11 a.m. Cut flowers only, please. Enquiries to Francis Chappell and Sons, 231 High St. Bromley, Kent. Tel.: 460 1720.

McGREGOR at Corrie Cottage, Laigh Fenwick on 5th February, 1978, *Amy*, wife of the late Miller McGregor and mother of Scott. Funeral Service at Craigton Crematorium, Glasgow on Wednesday, 8th February, at 11.30 a.m., to which all friends are invited.

MITCHELL INNES.—On February 5th, 1978, Ian Gilbert, while on holiday in San Francisco. Much loved husband of Marion and father of David and James. Cremation in San Francisco February 8th, and subsequent service at Dummer, Basingstoke to be announced in this column. "In sure and certain hope of the *resurrection to eternal life*."

MUGGERIDGE.—On 5th February in her 85th year (Pat) Bertha Ursula (nee Rutland), wife of Col. H. D. Muggeridge, O.B.E., mother of Douglas and grandmother of Fiona and Idonea. Funeral at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Thursday, 9th Feb. at 11.30 a.m.—*Flowers* to Paul Bysouth & Son Ltd. Tel. Crowborough 5000.

PARHAM.—After a road accident on 3rd February, 1978, Caroline Joan Parham, aged 22, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Derek Parham, of Harpenden.

PARTRIDGE.—On Feb. 5th peacefully at the White House nursing home, Crookham, Brenda de Mestre, aged 80, widow of E. H. Partridge, formerly Headmaster of Giggleswick School, Yorks, half sister of Joan Blundell, of Crookham Village, Hants, and the late Prudence Twiss. Funeral private.

PENTONY.—On Jan. 26, 1978, suddenly, Thorold Henry aged 95, dearly loved father of Tony, Pearl, Joy and Alban. Fortified by the rites of the Holy Church.

PHILLIPS.—On 2nd Feb., 1978, peacefully after a short illness, Herbert Henry Phillips, O.B.E., of Haslemere, Surrey. Beloved husband of Marjorie, dear father of Joyce and Norman, and greatly loved by his grandchildren.

PUGH.—On Saturday 4th February, at home, Leslie Mervyn Pugh of Formby, Liverpool, husband of Gwnadys, father of Ann and Helen and much loved grandfather. Former Stipendiary Magistrate of Merseyside. Funeral private. No flowers, but donations in his memory may be sent to Train A Priest Fund c/o Church House, Hanover St., Liverpool. Memorial Service in Liverpool to be announced later.

RAUFORD.—On February 4, 1978, peacefully, at home, Beatrice Mary, beloved wife of Vaughan and much loved mother of Pat, John, Roger and Mary. Private funeral at the Church of the Holy Cross, Epperstone, on Tuesday, February 7, at 3.30 p.m. Flowers to Baguley Bros., 500 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

RODERICK.—On February the 3rd at University hospital, Cardiff, Letitia Louise, of 35, Park Place, Cardiff, dearly loved mother of Vivien and Brenda and grandmother of Nigel.

ROSE.—On February 5, 1978, peacefully, at Yarmouth, I.o.W., Eileen May, wife of Teddy Rose. Service at St. James, Yarmouth, *on Friday, February 10, at 12* noon, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations to Cancer research or the R.N.L.I.

RUDD.—February 4, 1978, suddenly, Donald, of Eastcote and Woodbridge, beloved husband of Biddie and loving father of Rosemary and Felicity and grandmother of Brett, Peter, Martina, Simon and Donna. Funeral service at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, on Thursday, February 9, at 3.30 p.m. (East Chapel). Flowers to E. Spark Ltd., 104 Pinner Road, Northwood.

SANDERSON.—On February 4th, 1978, peacefully, at her home, Joyce Elizabeth aged 86, wife of the late Herbert Sanderson. Service at Guildford Crematorium on Thursday, 9th February, at 11.30 a.m. Family flowers only.

SARGEAUNT.—On Feb 2nd, 1978, at Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, Bertram Edward Sargeaunt, M.V.O., O.B.E., aged 100, for 34 years Government Secretary and Treasurer of the Isle of Man. Funeral service at Hurstpierpoint Parish Church on Thursday, Feb. 9th, at 2.30 p.m. Flowers, sprays only, to Hanningtons, Hove, or to the Church. Donations if preferred to Sister *Mary* Garson, Homes for the Elderly, Holy Cross Priory, Heathfield, Sussex.

SEARLE.—On February 5th, 1978, suddenly, at his home, Ramsden, Oxfordshire, William John, aged 56 years, youngest son of the late H. F. Searle, I.C.S., and Mrs. C. M. M. Searle (nee Schlich) and loved husband of Gwen (Jennifer) and father of Howard. Funeral service at Ramsden Parish Church, on Friday, February 10th, at 11.15 a.m.

SMITH.—On 5th Feb., 1978, at her home, Fo Carrick, Lag Birragh Drive, Onchan, Isle of Man, previously of Holt House, Mobberley, Elsie (Jan). Dearly beloved wife of Bill. Sadly missed by her daughter, Anna, and all her grandchildren, family & friends. Enquiries to Eric Faragher, FD, Isle of Man, Tel. 0624 3109.

SPENCER.—On *4th Feb., 1978*, Samuel Young, leather manufacturer and company director, retired.

SNOWDON.—On 31 January at home, Olive aged 95, daughter of Christopher Snowdon. Funeral at 11.30 on Friday, 10th February, at All Saints Church, Prince of Wales Drive, S.W.11.

SPRINGETT.—On 3rd February, Emma Elizabeth, in her 95th year, at Lapworth, Warwickshire. Widow of Frank Wimey, previously of Croydon, Surrey.

SYMES.—On February 2, 1978, Doris, of Flat 2, 14 Queens Avenue, Dorchester, Dorset, widow of Geoffrey George Helley Symes. Funeral service Weymouth Crematorium, Friday, February 10, at 2.30 p.m.

THOMPSON.—On Feb 4th, peacefully, J. Derek, devoted friend of Peter Hewitt. Cremation at Mortlake Crematorium, Thursday, *Feb. 9th at 10.40 a.m.* Cut flowers only to T. H. Sanders and Son Ltd., 35 Barnes High St., Barnes, S.W.13.

THOMPSON. — Reginald Thomas "Tommy", Chairman Allan Taylor (Motors) Ltd., and well loved husband of Phyl, on 5th February, 1978, at his home Inward Shaw, Park Lane, Ashtead, Surrey, after a long illness. Funeral private, no flowers, donations if desired to Cancer Research Institute, 34 Sumner Place, S.W.7.

THORNTON.—On 1st February, 1978, peacefully after a short illness, Roland, aged 87 years, of 119a Downside Avenue, Worthing, and late of Thames Ditton, Surrey. Service at Worthing Crematorium on Wednesday, February 8th, at 12 noon. No flowers by request, but donations if desired to P.D.S.A. House, South Street, *Dorking*, Surrey.

VERNON.—On February 5th, 1978, very suddenly, Letty, aged 69, in Bournemouth, dearly loved mother of Peter. Funeral Friday, 10th February, 3.00 p.m. at Gussage All Saints, near Wimborne, Dorset. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to National Heart Foundation.

VROLIK.—On Feb. 3rd, 1978, peacefully in a Reading hospital, Nan, dear sister of Dorothy and Eric and the late Frank and Norman. Funeral on Friday, Feb. 10th. Service Reading Crematorium at 10.30 a.m. Inquiries to Cyril H. Lovegrove, 114-116 Oxford Rd., Reading. Tel. Reading 52016.

WALLIS.—On the 2nd February, at a nursing home, Janet Mary Wallis aged 94, formerly of Hereford and St. Ives (Hunts). Cremation at Cambridge, Tuesday, 7th February.

WATERKEYN.—On February 5th, 1978, *peacefully in hospital*, Aurea Clare of Corby Castle, Carlisle, younger daughter of the late Sir Henry Lawson, Bt. Beloved mother of Denis and Celia and loving and much loved grandmother. Funeral Wednesday, February 8th, at 11 a.m. at the Church of Our Lady and St. Wilfred, Warwick Bridge. Fortified by the Rites of the Church.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DONALD.—A Memorial Service for the late Professor Maxwell Bruce Donald will be held *in* the University Church of Christ the King, Gordon Square, WC1, on Thursday 16 February 1978 at 12 noon.

PARHAM.—The memorial service for Hedley Parham will be held at Cirencester Parish Church, on Saturday, 11th February at 12 noon.

RICHARDS.—A memorial service for His Honour Judge Sir Norman Richards QC, will be held on Tuesday, February 21st at 4.45 p.m. in the Temple Church, EC4. It is regretted that parking facilities will not be available within the Temple.

IN MEMORIAM

GALLOWAY.—In loving memory of Randolph 11th Earl of Galloway who entered into his rest on February 7th 1920.

WRIGHT.—Remembering today and every day Pilot Officer Harry Wright, Bomber Command, R.A.F., who failed to return from operations over Germany on the night of Feb. 7-8, 1945, dearly loved only son of Lt.-Colonel and Mrs Marry Wright of Riverside, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, also of his beloved mother, Margaret Violet, who died at Aboyne, on 20th January, 1977.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

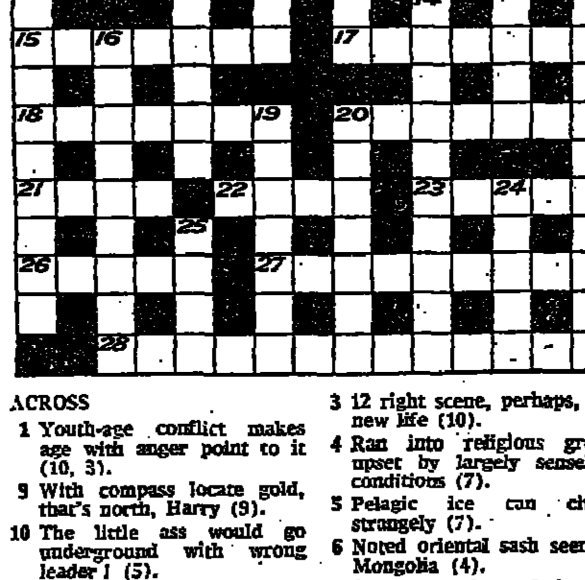
LADY MACLENNAN would have preferred to write personally to those who were kind enough to offer their sympathy at the time *of her husband's death*. For reasons of health she has been advised not to do so. Reluctantly, therefore, she takes this opportunity to express her gratitude for the deeply touching messages of sympathy and affection, which have been received from so many. The content of the *letters and telegrammes have* given much comfort to her and to the family.

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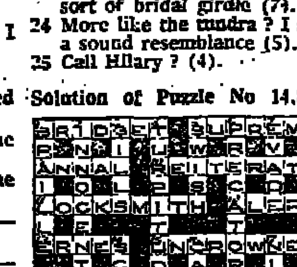
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,828



ACROSS
1 Youth-age conflict makes age with anger point to it (10, 3).
9 With compass locate gold, that's north, Harry (9).
10 The little ass would go underground with wrong leader ! (5).
11 Safe-blowers causing power cut (5).
12 About one Scots basket-maker (4).
13 Cannon Mark Ten ? (4).
15 Generous gifts said to be from Swiss capital (7).
17 Goldsmith was welcome in Italy (7).
18 Does not approve of aims (7).
20 Headwear forbidden ? Oh, I say ! (7).
21 Potter's mistake ? (4).
22 An account of a proposed law (4).
23 Plea for ball altered, one concludes (5).
26 Put on this course at the proper time (5).
27 I dine with port-substitute—damnation ! (9).
28 About minor optical fault—check TV accessory (6, 7).

DOWN
1 *Sociability in Robin's joint ?* (4-10).
2 Fixes standard of hardness (5).
3 12 right scene, perhaps, for new life (10).
4 Ran into religious group upset by largely senseless conditions (7).
5 Pelagic ice can circle strangely (7).
6 Noted oriental sash seen in Mongolia (4).
7 Oedipus perhaps—killer of old man Thomas ? (9).
8 Salutary steps taken within the law (14).
14 Nostalgia for this by the *Swanee River* (10).
16 Come back for the answer (9).
19 This little item's a bargain, darling (7).
20 Before start of ceremony, a sort of bridal girdle (7).
24 More like the tundra ? I see a sound resemblance (5).
25 Call Hilary ? (4).

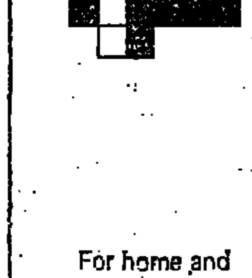
Solution of Puzzle No 14,827



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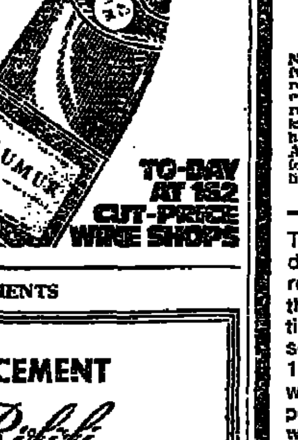
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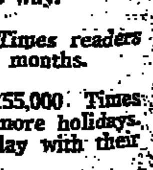
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